

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVI.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 18TH AUGUST, 1897.

No. 8.

### CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c. ....	141
Leading Articles:—	
The Bribery Scandal .....	142
Gambling: Its Suppression or Control .....	142
The Light Dues Commission .....	142
Before and After the Bank Meeting .....	143
Misrule in Kwangtung and the Extension of Hongkong's Boundaries .....	143
The Naval Yard Extension .....	144
Reviews .....	144
The New Chinese Loan .....	145
Supreme Court .....	145
The Queen's Acknowledgments of the Hongkong Telegrams .....	146
The Assessment .....	146
Dr. Ayres' Farewell .....	146
Mr. Herbert Smith and the Light Dues Commission .....	146
The Census Report .....	147
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	148
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited .....	149
The Hongkong Hotel Co., Limited .....	150
Li Hung Tsao .....	150
A Japanese Journal on Japanese Vanity .....	151
Official Changes at Peking .....	151
Salving the <i>Laiyuen</i> .....	151
Macao .....	151
Hongkong and Port News .....	152
Commercial .....	153
Shipping .....	155

### BIRTH.

On the 7th August, at "Veritas," Tanglin, the wife of SIDNEY JEFFREY, of a son.

### MARRIAGE.

On the 6th August, 1897, at Shanghai, NORMAN E. O. P. CANNING, eldest son of the late DAVID A. CANNING, Lieut., R.N., of Saint Helier's, Jersey, C.I., to S. LJUNGLOF, widow of the late ADOLPH LJUNGLOF.

### DEATHS.

At the Yokohama General Hospital, on the 4th instant, HAROLD C. REYNOLDS, aged 24 years.

At his residence, No. 13, Bluff, at 6.20 a.m., 5th August, H. M. ROBERTS (Carroll & Co., Yokohama and Kobe), of secondary meningitis.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 17th July arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 13th August (27 days); and the French mail of the 16th July arrived, per M. M. steamer *Lao*, on the 13th August (28 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is somewhat significant, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that Yin-huan, who went home as special representative of China at the Queen's Jubilee, has gone to Russia to meet Count Cassini.

A rich bed of coal has recently been discovered in Gifu Prefecture, the existence of which was previously unknown. Permission has been granted by the Government to Mr. Ibuka to work it. The mass of coal is said to be 48 feet in height and 72 feet in width.—*Nagasaki Shipping List*.

A special telegram from Shanghai to the *Daily Press* states that the Jameson-Hooley Syndicate have signed a preliminary contract for a loan to the Chinese Government of sixteen millions sterling. The contract carries with it concessions for railway construction. A representative of the Syndicate has left Shanghai for Peking to ratify the contract.

Floods are reported from various parts of Japan, attended with considerable damage to property and some loss of life. There has also been a tidal wave in Miyagi, which flooded the fishing villages, and caused great alarm, but from the meagre accounts received it does not appear that any lives have been lost by it.

Chinese who desire to take up their residence in Formosa have to present an application signed by their own local authority and endorsed by the Japanese Consul of the port from which they come. Recently about eight hundred Chinese who had landed secretly without conforming to this requirement were deported to Foochow.

The Kissa Emigration Company, Tokyo, has received a telegram from Brazil stating that a financial crisis is apprehended there as a result of the fall in the price of silver. In consequence the company has postponed the departure of 1,500 emigrants who were to proceed to Brazil, and the *Tosa-maru* has been withdrawn from the berth.

Dr. Patrick Manson has been appointed physician and medical adviser to the Colonial Office, in succession to Sir Charles Gage Brown, who has retired. Dr. Manson's friends in the Far East will be glad to hear of his appointment to this responsible position, and the Colonial Office is to be congratulated on the acquisition of so competent an adviser.

A large number of granite quarries in Hupoh province are being now worked under government auspices and at the command of H.E. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, in order to supply materials for the railway bed, embankments, etc., of the proposed Lu-Han Railway. Already, according to a native correspondent at Hankow, a large quantity of granite *en bloc* and in chips has arrived at Hankow, that port being made the future forwarding ground for all kinds of material required as the railway progresses into the interior.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Referring to the nomination of Mr. Rounseville Wildman to be the United States Consul at Hongkong the *San Francisco Call* says:—Mr. Rounseville Wildman, M.A., is the editor of the *Overland Monthly* of San Francisco. He came here about 1893 from the Straits Settlements where he had been consul during President Harrison's term. Previous to that he was a delegate to Congress from Idaho, which has since become a State, and was a Commissioner at the World's Fair. Mr. Wildman bought the *Overland Monthly* and himself assumed the editorship. He has contributed to it a number of continued stories and short sketches of considerable merit.

Several United States Senators, including Mr. Pettigrew, are, according to a Tokyo press despatch, expected to arrive in Japan by the next C.P.R. steamer, which left Vancouver on the 2nd inst. Their mission is to report upon the coinage system and commerce of the country. A Canadian commercial commission is expected by the same steamer. In view of the constant arrival of foreigners in Japan for the inspection of the commerce and industries of the country, the Foreign Minister has issued an instruction to the Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, and other important towns, suggesting that the utmost assistance should be given to the visitors.

From the *Echo Macaense* we learn that on the 13th August an explosion of gunpowder took place at a cracker factory at Sakong. Of the five workpeople engaged in the place two were killed outright, two were so seriously injured that no hope is entertained of their recovery, and only one escaped.

The prospectus of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Co., Limited, has been published. The capital is \$1,200,000, in 12,000 shares of \$100 each. It is proposed to issue at present only 9,000 shares, of which 6,000 have been allotted by the promoters, and the remaining 3,000 are offered for public subscription. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. are to be the General Agents. It is proposed to build a 50,000 spindle mill and the refusal has been obtained of a suitable site in the Sookunpo Valley.

At the inquest held at Shanghai concerning the death of Wilfred Arthur Chambers, the child who died after the administration of what was supposed to be a santonine powder, the following verdict was returned:—"That the said Wilfred Arthur Chambers met his death by the administration of a powder made up by Voelkel and Schroeder, which contained strychnine instead of santonine, as prescribed by Dr. Zedelins." Mr. Voelkel, who was in court, was asked before the verdict was given if he wished to make any statement, but he replied that he did not, and that a case was coming on at the German court in connection with the matter.

In an article on the bribery scandal the *Straits Times* says:—Anyone who knows the Hongkong Police force knows that the European officers are men who attain to more affluence than do the European officers in the Straits. It would be, of course, unfair to suggest that they, obtained that comparative affluence by other than honest means; but it is somewhat striking that, whereas the Hongkong policeman is a man who does possess means, the policeman of the Straits is a very poor man, and barely lives upon his pay. The Hongkong Police must feel that the present conviction is a deplorable slur on their body, and the confidence of the public in the probity and honesty of its guardians of the peace and enforcers of the law must be severely shaken.

Count Goto died at his residence at Takanawa on the 4th August. In the following paragraph from the *Japan Mail* we are reminded of an incident in his career that must be ever remembered to his infinite credit:—Count Goto may be justly described as one of the landmarks of new Japan. In the drama of the Restoration he played a part so important that his services received exceptional recognition in the form of a substantial life income. To foreigners he is best known, perhaps, as one of the two *samurai* who rendered brave and prompt assistance to Sir Harry Parkes and his escort on the occasion of the attack by *ronin* in Kyoto, twenty-nine years ago. Count Goto's assistant in that memorable act was Mr. Nakai Kozo, who died in 1894 in Kyoto, of which city he was then Governor. The Queen sent to each gentleman a gold-mounted and jewelled sword in acknowledgement of their gallant and timely service. Count Goto held many high offices during the past twenty-five years. He possessed great administrative ability, and showed uncompromising fearlessness in the assertion of his opinions.



## THE BRIBERY SCANDAL.

(12th August.)

The Government despatches on the sensational gambling scandal in the colony are being forwarded by to-day's mail \* for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. From the public point of view the position of affairs at the present moment is somewhat singular. The finding of the tell-tale book or list in the gambling house keeper's establishment in East Street has led, as everybody now knows, to the suspension of four European police officers for gross neglect of duty, the conviction and imprisonment of one Police Inspector, the banishment of practically the whole of the Chinese detective force, the dismissal of a Sanitary Inspector, and the retirement from the public service on a reduced pension of the first clerk in the Registrar-General's Department. In addition other police officers are suspected of having accepted bribes, but as yet the suspected officers have not been taken off duty. The public, of course, are naturally eager to be informed of the reason why, for practically similar offences, different methods of procedure have been adopted. We will first take the cases of Mr. OSMUND, the first clerk in the Registrar-General's Department, and Sanitary Inspector HORE. Both were accused of, to use the ordinary but not in their case strictly legal term, accepting bribes, and both were called before the Executive Council to explain their conduct. The Executive Council decided that neither of the accused had exculpated himself. HORE was dismissed and OSMUND was called upon to resign on a reduced pension. It is generally understood that the reason why the Executive Council dealt so leniently with Mr. OSMUND was because they took into consideration his thirty-eight years' service and also the fact of his having a large family. It seems to us that the premises on which this decision is supposed to have been based are wholly false. The acceptance of illicit payments—whether they can be legally called bribes or not is of no consequence—is an offence which admits of no clemency on the ground of previous long service and good conduct, and we must therefore assume that the Council found an actual difference in the gravity of the offence in the two cases of HORE and OSMUND. If long service were to count ex-Inspector WITCHELL might also claim the benefit of it. He had served about twenty years in the police service in England and Hongkong, had borne an excellent character, and has a wife and five or six children. He was proceeded against in the criminal courts, not because his offence was worse than the acceptance of illegal gratifications by officers in other departments of the public service, but because he, as a police officer, came within the criminal law. If he is to bear the brunt of all this alleged rottenness in the public service and be the only man to suffer imprisonment when there are many others equally guilty it is not really surprising to hear that sympathy for him has been expressed in various quarters. Of course it does not follow that one wrongdoer against whom there is sufficient evidence for conviction should be allowed to escape because evidence cannot be obtained against others, but in the present case it does seem what is commonly termed "hard luck" on WITCHELL if he is to be the only man proceeded against criminally. We have, however, no sympathy for WITCHELL when

his case is considered by itself. He and every other Inspector or Sergeant or Constable who has accepted bribes has most disgracefully dragged through the mire the good name of the Hongkong Police Force and has made the position of every honest man in the Force a most unenviable one to hold. The terrible stigma which has been cast upon the Force will leave its traces for years to come. The sentence on WITCHELL was therefore amply merited.

We will now take the case of the suspended and also the suspected police officers. It may be taken for granted that as they have not been charged at the Police Court the attempt to obtain direct evidence against any one of them has failed and that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will be asked by His Excellency the Governor to dismiss the whole lot from the Police Force. But so far the men concerned have not had an opportunity of making any defence. They may all be guilty, but is there not a chance that all or some of them may be innocent? A man charged with the worst crime known to our laws is allowed to make his defence, but in the case of these police officers the despatches go home to-day giving the one side of the story, and that side is the Government's. Such procedure as that is scarcely in accord with the principles of English law and justice, and we trust the Government will, in fairness to the officers concerned, at once call upon them to make their defence, which of course should be forwarded without delay to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. We believe the nature of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's reply concerning the suspended officers has been in a measure anticipated by an order telegraphed home the other day for a batch of police to be sent to Hongkong, so that in a short time we may see the force, which is sadly attenuated at present, fully manned. Let us hope it will be fully honest.

## GAMBLING: ITS SUPPRESSION OR CONTROL.

Referring to the Hongkong gambling scandal and to the suggestion made in this column that a limited number of gambling houses should be licensed, the *Echo Macaense*, while agreeing that it would be better to legalise gambling than to make further abortive attempts to suppress it, goes on to urge that in case this policy should be adopted restrictions should be imposed in the licence to the effect that none but Chinese should be allowed to use the houses. This suggestion our contemporary makes in the interest of the Portuguese community, and it mentions that while the Macao Government licenses gambling members of the public service are prohibited under pain of suspension and dismissal to frequent the gambling houses. "By this means," our contemporary says, "the Chinese would not be under the necessity of corrupting the police in order to satisfy their love of gaming, and at the same time the vice would not extend to the non-Chinese population to ruin their families." Under the licensing system that existed for a short time during Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL's administration this principle was observed in the latter part of the term, Europeans being forbidden access to the gambling houses. If the system were reintroduced no doubt the same restriction would be imposed. At Macao it is only members of the public service that are forbidden to frequent the houses, and that only by a service regulation, not by statutory law. It would be a good thing if Europeans generally were excluded from the Macao

gambling houses and we would recommend to our Portuguese contemporary that it should advocate the application to its own colony of the principle it advocates for Hongkong.

But although the licensing and regulation of gambling would be the best means of dealing with the evil we fear there is no prospect of the home Government being induced to take that view. What then is to be done? It may be urged that the present law would be effective if honestly administered, as is shown by the fact that it was in fact effective for a short time after it came into operation. But how is honest administration to be secured? While the memory of the recent scandal and the punishment that has in some cases followed the acceptance of bribes remains fresh purity may continue and gambling may for the time being be stamped out, but it will not be long before the agents of corruption are again at work and there will be the same risk as before of some members of the public service succumbing to the temptation of doubling or trebling their pay by winking at illegality. The risk of detection is small. The corruption in the Police Force which has just been brought to light has existed no doubt ever since the Force was established; its existence has been suspected more or less all along, but this is the first time that it has been found possible to obtain tangible proof, and that only by what may be termed a mere accident, namely, a quarrel amongst the members and employees of a gambling establishment. Men who are open to accept bribes may with some reason proceed on the assumption that a similar accident is not likely to happen again and that in the absence of direct information from those engaged in the distribution of bribes there will be no legal proof of their wrongdoing.

We do not know whether the Government intends to amend the law or to make another attempt to administer it as it stands, but in either case it would be advisable to make as sparing a use as possible of the pernicious class known as informers. Perhaps the services of such men cannot be dispensed with altogether by the criminal investigation department, but it seems a mistake to employ them in connection with such a matter as gambling, as the evil thereby created is even greater than the evil it is desired to suppress. We employ on the one hand a large and expensive Police Force for the preservation of law and order and on the other hand we have a number of informers who accept pay indifferently from both parties, from the Government for giving information of crime and from the criminal for suppressing such information. While employed in connection with the suppression of crime they are in fact crime promoters and the agents employed for the corruption of the police.

## THE LIGHT DUES COMMISSION.

The retirement of Mr. HERBERT SMITH and Mr. THURBURN from the Light Dues Commission is much to be regretted, but is not to be wondered at, the circumstances being as detailed in Mr. SMITH's letter published in another column. The surprising feature in the matter is the desire of the officials to limit the meaning of the term "harbour receipts." At the beginning of the discussion, and when it was a question of what should be included in the term "harbour and lighthouse expenditure," an attempt was made to hold the shipping responsible for a proportion of the military contribution and various other matters having no direct connection with ship-

\* We are informed that the despatches did not go home by the mail in question.



ping. Following the same absurd principle the officials might have been expected to include amongst harbour receipts the taxes paid by the Dock Company and the various shipbuilding, engineering, and shipchandlery establishments. Instead of that, however, they go to the opposite extreme and wish to exclude from harbour receipts the income derived from a portion of the craft using the harbour. Under such circumstances it is useless for business men to waste their time on the Commission, for no practical result can be arrived at while ordinary business principles and common sense are thrown to the winds. For our own part we cannot see any advantage in holding an inquiry at all. As the colony is dependent upon shipping for its trade we would do everything possible to attract shipping and would allow it to enter the harbour free. Shipping people themselves, however, have expressed their willingness to continue to pay light dues at the rate of one cent a ton, and as that amount, with other harbour receipts, is more than sufficient to cover all lighthouse and harbour expenditure, what is the use of discussing the matter further? Perhaps we ought to admire the solicitude of the officials to increase the revenue, but it must be recognised that incidentally their own interests are to some extent affected. The public will shortly hear of a demand for an increase in the rate of official salaries. But the demand cannot be met unless the revenue is sufficient to cover it. A tax on shipping would meet that requirement. We do not intend to suggest that this consideration has been present to the minds of the remaining members of the commission, namely, Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, Chief Justice, Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH, Colonial Treasurer, and Hon. HO KAI. The interests of the last named must be identical with what he conceives to be those of the public, and the other two members would naturally endeavour to the best of their ability to preserve a judicial frame of mind, but it is perhaps inevitable that they should look at the matter through official spectacles, while in the Hon. HO KAI's mind the interests of landed property will probably loom rather largely and may prevent his taking that comprehensive view of the subject that is desirable. Under the circumstances it would seem that after the retirement of the members representing shipping and commerce the Commission might as well be dissolved.

#### BEFORE AND AFTER THE BANK MEETING.

(14th August.)

Business men attending the meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to-day will naturally be curious to hear what the Chairman may have to say on the great silver question. It is perhaps hardly to be expected that Mr. MICHAELSEN will be able to throw any fresh light on a problem that baffles the ablest financiers of the world, but there are one or two points immediately affecting the Bank and its shareholders that may perhaps receive attention. A correspondent on the appearance of the report drew attention to the loss shareholders on the Hongkong register would sustain in their dividends by reason of the fall in exchange since the date at which the rate was fixed. Taking yesterday's rate shareholders in the East will receive only £1 3s. 7½d. as against the £1 5s. receivable by the London shareholders. On the other hand it should not be forgotten that the local quotation for the shares is the equivalent of only £33 15s. 6½d., as against

£43 on the London market, so that the Hongkong shareholder receives a better rate of interest on his investment, and from that point of view certainly has no reason to complain. The capital of the Bank being in silver, however, it is worth consideration whether it would not be better to declare the dividend in that currency and eliminate from the report the paragraph referring to the difference in exchange, which now reads rather absurdly; e.g., "The difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1s. 11½d., the rate of the day, amounts to \$566,081.83." The grim irony of that paragraph is calculated to make the unfortunates whose interests are linked with silver cast an eye on the capital account and see how that would look when done into sterling. Ten years ago the capital was seven millions and a half and the reserve fund four millions and a half, making a total of twelve millions, which at the rate of exchange on the 30th June, 1887, gave a sterling value of over £1,900,000, whereas the present capital of ten millions and reserve fund of six millions and a half, together sixteen millions and a half, gave a sterling value on the 30th June last of only £1,637,000 odd, the actual sterling loss on paper, notwithstanding the increase of the capital and reserve fund, being over a quarter of a million. On the other side of the account we have sterling assets set down at considerably under their present silver value, but after all allowance is made on that account the Bank has been a heavy loser by the fall in silver, if we are to take gold as the standard. Seeing, however, that the dividend amounts to ten per cent. per annum on the original sterling value of the shares the shareholders may not be altogether dissatisfied.

(16th August.)

As was to be anticipated, the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at the meeting on Saturday had a good deal to say about the position of the Bank with regard to silver, and what he said must have been eminently agreeable to the shareholders. Of course there is no blinking the fact that the silver difficulty is a serious matter and is likely to remain so until exchange has reached something like a stable rate and things have adjusted themselves thereto. It was generally thought some little time ago that the rate would probably continue at about 2s., and people were becoming accustomed to think of ten dollars as the equivalent of a sovereign, when another "slump" set in, and where it is going to end no one can tell. A skilful banker will of course make profits whichever way exchange goes, but as Mr. MICHAELSEN remarked on Saturday, the lower exchange goes the more onerous the task will be of maintaining a sterling dividend of £1 5s. per share. He added, however, that without being over sanguine the Board wished to express their confidence in being able to do so. Mr. MICHAELSEN mentioned, too, that at no time are the sterling liabilities allowed to exceed the sterling assets, in fact very much the reverse, so that while the fall in silver is a matter of regret to the Bank it is not, and will not be allowed to be, a source of loss to the profit and loss account. In fact the Bank might be described as a dual institution, a gold bank and a silver bank working conjointly, and too much praise cannot be given to the management for the skill and foresight that have effected such an admirable organisation that fluctuations

in exchange, which have brought disaster to some other financial institutions, may by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank be regarded without apprehension, though not without regret when regard is had to the diminished sterling value of the silver assets. However, to make up for the shrinkage in the sterling value of the capital the value of the sterling securities very much exceeds the amount at which they stand in the books. The portion of the Bank's capital used in its Indian business has also undergone a large appreciation by the course of exchange in that country, and the same thing is happening in Japan, so that, as Mr. MICHAELSEN remarked, "from many points of view the recent heavy depreciation in the price of silver cannot be looked upon as an unmixed evil to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank." At the same time the Bank would no doubt be only too glad to forego its profit by the fall in exchange and to restore the Merry Mexican to its pristine glory had it the power to do so. In view of the uncertainty attending the course of exchange it is a wise policy on the part of the Bank to go on steadily increasing its reserve fund, and the shareholders may well be satisfied, seeing that this policy is compatible with the payment of the substantial dividend of £1 5s. per share. As to the manner in which the dividend is paid, we understand that any shareholder who desires to receive it in sterling can have it paid to his account in London upon giving notice on or before the 31st December or 30th June each year, so that shareholders on the Hongkong register have really no grievance on that score. The accounts have to be closed on a fixed date and the rate of exchange on that date is the rate at which the dividend is paid in dollars. Between that date and the date of payment there may be some fluctuation in exchange, which may be in favour of or against the shareholder, but the difference, although rather marked this year, is not as a rule likely to be anything worth consideration.

#### MISRULE IN KWANGTUNG AND THE EXTENSION OF HONGKONG'S BOUNDARIES.

Whatever truth there may be in the accusations recently made by the Censors against His Excellency TAN CHUNG-LIN, the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, there is small doubt about the anarchic condition of a great portion of the provinces he is alleged to be misgoverning. One Censor states that the Viceroy has lapsed into senility, and is the easy prey of intriguing and corrupt persons. The second son of the Viceroy is included in the denunciatory memorial of the Censor, and the charges are reported to be undergoing investigation by His Excellency HSU CHEN-YI, Governor of Kwangtung. There is, we imagine, plenty of ground for investigation, for things have for some time past been going from bad to worse in Kwangtung. Clan fights on a vast scale are constantly occurring in different districts, and in many cases the slaughter is so great as to amount to civil war on a small scale. Simultaneously with these outbreaks banditti roam the province, and terrorise and plunder whole villages and towns. A serious insurrection has broken out in the Chinchow district, and it is stated that the rebels now number ten thousand. Corruption is rife in every branch of the administration, trade is hampered by the multiplication of lekin barriers and the invention of new imposts. It is unfortunate for the interests of this Colony and of British trade generally that



the reins of power in the neighbouring provinces should be held in so feeble a grasp as has been the case for many years in Canton. Since CHANG CHIH-TUNG left to administer the Government of the Hukwang at Wuchang no progress of any kind has been made in the Two Kwang, and every attempt to promote new enterprises has failed either through the apathy of the Viceroy or the corruption of the officials. The outlook is certainly about as bad as could be wished, and the worst of it is that there is very little hope of any material improvement being brought in the ordinary course. If His Excellency TAN is, on the report of his subordinate, removed from the Governor-Generalship, it is to be feared he will only be succeeded by another corrupt mandarin: King Log will be replaced by King Stork. There seems to be no salvation for China through her own governing class, and if ever the country is to be opened up and its great natural resources properly utilised this must be effected by foreign influence if not by direct foreign interference. Meantime it would be an excellent thing for the British Government to afford the Cantonese an object lesson in the direction of how to administer the rural districts by acquiring the strip of land at the rear of the Kowloon peninsula extending to the back of Mins and Castle Peak Bays. This rectification of the frontiers of the Colony is urgently required, and should be pressed for now while the province is being so shamefully misgoverned. The people living in this small strip of territory would then be rescued from disorder and find security and freedom from official persecution. The country is not rich, but as the peasants would find their produce free from the taxation at present imposed on most of the provisions sent to the Hongkong markets a great stimulus would be given to cattle raising and the cultivation of vegetables and fruit. Sites for various industries would also be provided, and the first section of the proposed line from Kowloon to Canton could be constructed, just to show the way and encourage the Chinese Government to complete the work.

#### THE NAVAL YARD EXTENSION.

The debate on the Naval Works Bill in the House of Commons on the 14th ultimo had some local interest for this Colony. Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, Civil Lord of the Admiralty, in an able speech, in moving the second reading of the Bill, gave the House some information as to the new works that are to be undertaken during the current financial year. The most important, of course, is the creation of a harbour at Dover which will have an enclosed space of 610 acres below low water and afford berths for about twenty battleships besides smaller vessels. At Gibraltar it is intended to close the north end of the harbour by a breakwater, at a cost of £700,000, of which the colony is to contribute four-sevenths. At Colombo a large new dock is to be built, towards the cost of which the Admiralty will contribute one-half, the said sum not to exceed £159,000. Concerning Hongkong, an increase had been made in the estimate for the extension of the Naval Yard which will give the Admiralty a dockyard of eight acres and a deep water basin with a frontage of 1,100 feet instead of the single deep water jetty afforded by the old design. The statement was well received, but the critics pointed out, and, as *The Times* remarks, not without

justice, that the Government have hitherto not spent the money fast enough; that, in short, sufficient progress is not made with the works. Thus, Mr. ROBERTSON showed, for example, that they had provided £500,000 to be spent at Keyham by the 31st March, 1897, while the actual expenditure has not exceeded £88,204. At Gibraltar, too, the money voted had not been expended. Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN admitted that the progress actually made with the works was not so great as, in a sanguine frame of mind, the Admiralty had anticipated last year, but he believed they were justified in expecting a greater speed in the current financial year. It will be interesting to note the progress made in the reclamation for the Dockyard here, and whether the Naval Authorities will be able to show the local Government the way in this department of work. If they do not progress faster than the Praya Reclamation has proceeded it will be many years before the large area to be won from the foreshore will be above water. Fortunately for the Admiralty a good deal of the area lies in shallow water, but a vast quantity of earth will be required for filling, and the method now adopted of bringing it from Yaumati in boats is necessarily very slow. If Morrison Hill were nearer it would pay to purchase and cut it down for the purpose, using trucks on a light tramway instead of baskets on coolies' shoulders. In any case, we trust that no critic of the Government will a twelve month hence need to get up in Parliament to complain that only a small percentage of the money voted for the Royal Naval Yard at Hongkong had been spent.

#### REVIEWS.

*The Folly of Pen Harrington.* By JULIAN STURGIS. London: Longmans, Green & Co. 1897.

THIS, the latest addition to Longmans' Colonial Library, aims, according to the author's statement in the dedication to Miss Rhoda Broughton, at being a comedy. And a comedy it is, bright and sparkling, and with a little tragic touch in one of the characters that adds to the interest. Pen Harrington, the heroine, is an unconventional young lady, healthy minded and generous, moving in London society and patronising a girls' club, the members of which adore her. Pen makes everyone obey her, not only the members of her club, but also the notable personages composing her social clique. Amongst the characters introduced are a polished villain and a sound hearted explorer from Africa who has made a name for himself. After the manner of comedies the heroine in the long run bestows her hand and heart in the right place. The rather slender plot is skilfully treated, with plenty of lively dialogue and a succession of amusing and exciting situations. It is a book to be read at one sitting, and few who commence it will lay it down until they have finished it. Our copy for review reaches us through Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Limited.

*Mrs. Keith's Crime.* A Record. By Mrs. W. K. CLIFFORD. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1897.

A NOVEL which reaches a sixth edition must have recommendations. "Mrs. Keith's Crime" is a strongly written story, but exceptionally morbid. The crime which forms its *motif* is as clearly the result of an unhinged mind as if it had resulted from religious mania or any other form of madness. In her preface, referring to criticisms of her work that have appeared, the authoress says: "The chief objections to Mrs. Keith were that it was written in the present tense, and that as a whole it was much too painful." The former objection she meets by saying that a workman uses those tools which will best accomplish the design he has in hand, and that the present tense was the best tool for telling this story; while as for the story being painful, human life is often an agony borne in silence, and it is the business of fiction to make us familiar with the joys and

sorrows of life. All of which is very true, but we can hardly think it the business of fiction to give an introspective study of madness. Mrs. Keith's love for her slowly dying child gradually undermines her moral responsibility and finally leads to a great catastrophe. The annals of criminal jurisprudence furnish accounts of extraordinary crimes committed by mothers whose maternal affection has run to the excess of madness, but these would hardly form pleasant themes for a novel, neither does Mrs. Keith's crime, though the story is artistically told, and relieved with bright and lively touches here and there.

*Christine of the Hills.* By MAX PEMBERTON. London: George Bell and Sons. Hongkong: Kelly and Walsh.

Mr. PEMBERTON's heroine is a Dalmatian girl, whose story is told to the author by "an old sinner of Sebenico who chanced to have a yacht to let and a week to idle through." The old sinner himself, Andrea, plays a conspicuous part in the story and is a well drawn character. Christine was left an orphan, subject to the abuse of a brutal half-brother, and with no friend but Andrea, and he loses sight of her for four years, which pass unhappily for the child. She develops a talent for singing and the violin and ultimately achieves a professional triumph, which coincides in point of time with a crisis in her domestic life. During the intervening years she has had remarkable experiences of adventure and of love, neglect, and ill-treatment. The story is well told and the interest is never allowed to flag.

*The Temple of Folly.* Chapters from the Book of Mr. Fairfax, the Franciscan, truthfully, and for the first time, setting forth his entire relations with that curious, evil brotherhood. Edited by PAUL CRESWICK. London: T. Fisher Unwin. 1897.

IN a preliminary note issued by the publisher while the book was in the printer's hands we were informed that Mr. Paul Creswick was making his, as yet, most important bid for fame in "The Temple of Folly." "The title is an allusion to Medenham Abbey the scene of the famous orgies of George Bubb Dodington, the favourite of George the Second. Mr. Creswick has, in fact, essayed a historical romance in which he has brought Dodington in, in the picturesque double rôle of perfect gentleman and infamous rake. Dodington, it will be remembered, founded an impious order of Franciscans who worshipped the devil. The names of eleven of the twelve members of this order are handed down to us. The twelfth is unknown. Mr. Creswick has made his hero the twelfth and thus fiction steps in where history fears to tread." But we do not find very much about the Franciscans in the book. There is an account in the fifteenth chapter of the hero's initiation, but the mysteries of the Order have not a great deal to do with the plot, which is concerned chiefly with love and adventure. Anthony Fairfax, the hero, who tells the tale, was to have been trained in his father's bank at Totnes, but instead he ran away to sea. Subsequently he is thrown into contact with George Bubb Dodington, afterwards Lord Melcombe, by whom he is induced to join the Order of Franciscans, though he does not appear to have joined to any great extent in their orgies and villainies, but on the contrary to have lived the sort of life to be expected of a healthy minded, high spirited young fellow. If the historical element in the book is somewhat thin and disappointing the romance itself is distinctly interesting.

*A Padre in Partibus.* Being Notes and Impressions of a brief Holiday Tour through Java, the Eastern Archipelago, and Siam. By the Rev. GEORGE M. REITH, M.A. Reprinted from the *Singapore Free Press*. Singapore, Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama: Kelly and Walsh, Limited, 1897.

THOSE who made acquaintance with Mr. Reith's descriptions of his holiday ramblings when they appeared in the *Singapore Free Press* will be pleased to have a portion of them in permanent form and will entertain a hope that the remainder may be similarly rescued from the oblivion of a newspaper file. The author records his impressions



in an interesting and amusing manner, having a light and graceful pen. There is no straining after effect, no artificiality, but a plain and truthful record by a close observer and skilful writer who, amongst his other qualifications, possesses a keen sense of humour.

### THE NEW CHINESE LOAN.

**THE JAMESON-HOOLEY SYNDICATE.**  
[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]  
Shanghai, 16th August.

The Jameson-Hooley Syndicate have signed a preliminary contract with the Chinese Government for a loan of sixteen million pounds sterling.

In consequence of this contract the Syndicate obtains important railway construction concessions.

The Syndicate's agent proceeds to Peking to-day to ratify the contract.

### SUPREME COURT.

#### IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHUNG CHAI SIEN v. KAW HONG TAKE.

Plaintiff, who is a merchant and commission agent in Bonham Strand, sought to recover from the defendant, who is also a merchant and commission agent carrying on business in Praya West, the sum of \$1,490.90, being the value of goods shipped by the plaintiff on defendant's ship and detained by the defendant, together with \$1,000 damage sustained by the detention of the goods.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings's office) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Bowley, of Mr. Dennys's office) represented the defendant.

A jury had been summoned to try the issue, but when the case was called on Mr. Francis said that he and his learned friend had agreed to dispense with a jury.

His Lordship thought counsel were wise in adopting that course, as it would be very difficult for a jury to follow evidence taken on commission unless they read it over themselves most carefully.

Mr. Robinson said he had always been of that opinion and he asked that any expenses incurred in summoning the jury should be paid by his learned friend, because it was all his work. (Laughter.)

Mr. Francis explained the facts of the case and said that the action was brought to recover the value of certain goods shipped by the plaintiff on board the steamer *Cosmopolit*, which was either the property of or chartered to the defendant, who failed to deliver the goods, or the greater portion of them, to the consignees in Foochow, and also to recover damages in consequence of loss sustained by the non-delivery of the goods. About the 18th September last the plaintiff delivered to the defendant certain merchandise to be carried by the defendant in the steamship *Cosmopolit* to Foochow and to be delivered there according to the directions of the plaintiff. Defendant did not deliver the goods as directed and they were lost to the plaintiff, who had as a consequence been injured in his credit and reputation. Defendant, in answer to the plaintiff's petition, said the goods were delivered on his steamship in pursuance of a certain agreement whereby the defendant, upon the condition that plaintiff would give him carriage of all the goods, promised to take them at a reduced rate to Foochow. The plaintiff, however, broke the agreement by despatching goods by another steamer and therefore the defendant refused to take the goods in respect of which the dispute arose at a reduced rate. In December defendant tendered \$950 in full satisfaction of the plaintiff's claim and that money was paid into court. It was entirely denied by the plaintiff that there was any agreement that the plaintiff should not ship goods for Foochow by any other steamer than the defendant's and that there should therefore be a reduction in

the rate. The assumption was that there was an agreement entered into in the correspondence that took place between the parties. The effect of the correspondence was that the defendant, imagining that there had been some breach of agreement by the plaintiff, refused to accept the freight when it was tendered, insisting that he had a claim against plaintiff for damages as compensation for the breach of the agreement to ship solely by the *Cosmopolit*, and he also refused to accept the freight for the goods until a settlement was arrived at. In a letter the defendant threatened to detain the goods in Foochow until his claim had been settled. In accordance with that threat he sent instructions to his agents in Foochow not to deliver the goods to the consignees except on payment of that sum of \$550 or on security for that amount being given. The result was that bills of lading were not given to the plaintiff in Hongkong and he was therefore not in a position to send bills of lading to the consignees in Foochow.

Evidence was then called. The case was not concluded when the Court adjourned.

16th August.

The case for the plaintiff occupied two days—the 12th and 13th August.

Mr. Robinson, for the defendant, said the nature of the contract, the measure of damages, and the amount of damages, independent of the measure, were in dispute. It became important to consider who and what the plaintiff was in order to ascertain what were his remedies and his damages. The plaintiff's case was that the *Cosmopolit* was put upon the berth as a general ship by the defendant and that in the ordinary course the plaintiff entered into a contract with the defendant for the carriage and delivery of certain goods, whereby, by putting the goods on board the steamer on the 18th September last, an implied contract arose that the defendant would carry out delivery according to instructions given in drawing out the bills of lading. The plaintiff contended that there was a breach of contract by delay in delivery, the delay extending over a period of several weeks, and the plaintiff claimed damages for such delay.

Mr. Francis said the plaintiff was not claiming for delay but for non-delivery.

Mr. Robinson said that was a point at issue between the parties.

His Lordship took it Mr. Robinson contended the plaintiff ought to have taken delivery.

Mr. Robinson said yes. With regard to some of the goods they were actually delivered and taken delivery of on the 6th October. When the goods arrived they were tendered on condition in the first instance and unconditionally on the 9th November. Moreover, no delivery was ever asked for by the plaintiff before the 9th November, as plaintiff's agent never went to take delivery, but certain persons called consignees, who had no bills of lading, did make application for delivery. In respect of the measure of damages counsel said that questions of law arose peculiar to the Foochow market and also peculiar to this case in that there was a difference in the weight given in the invoices and in the weight shipped on board according to the mate's receipts. Counsel contended that the plaintiff was not the owner of the goods but merely the buying and forwarding agent of the owners at Foochow. The evidence of each of the Foochow claimants was precise on the point that the goods were ordered definitely and that they were forwarded to them. According to a treatise on mercantile law (which counsel quoted) the right of action would be by the Foochow owners on the ground that the plaintiff was their agent merely for the forwarding of the goods, and counsel submitted that the consignees might have a right of action against the ship, but they had no right of action against the plaintiff, and therefore the plaintiff could not claim damages or loss of market against the defendant, because plaintiff himself was not liable for the loss to the consignees. The plaintiff could not be held liable to them and he could not make the defendant liable. Counsel then quoted various authorities in support of his contentions.

Witnesses for the defence were called and the Court adjourned.

10th August.

#### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

KWONG CHEONG v. WONG KAN.

The plaintiffs, a firm of fish dealers of Lowan, near Macao, sued defendant, a fisherman, for \$522.30, money lent and monies paid on account of defendant. Mr. Bowley (of Mr. Dennys's office) appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for defendant.

This case was before the Court on 20th July, when defendant admitted owing \$170 and produced a book chopped by plaintiffs to prove that he had paid the balance of plaintiffs' claims, and His Lordship on the occasion gave judgment for the amount admitted only and deprived plaintiffs of their costs. The plaintiffs subsequently obtained an order for a rehearing on the grounds that they had been taken by surprise by the production by defendant of an account book which was really a forgery and that they could now produce further evidence in rebuttal.

The rehearing of the case came on to-day.

Cheong Pak, managing partner in the plaintiffs' firm, proved that they had lent \$400 to defendant in 1894 to assist him in building a fishing junk and that defendant in return agreed to sell to them all the fish he caught. They took no acknowledgment from defendant, but made entries of the loan in their own account books. In addition to this loan plaintiffs made numerous payments on defendant's account and lent further money to him. The defendant sold several catches of fish to plaintiffs, who credited him with part of the price against the "small loans" account and paid him the balances. After a time defendant ceased to bring fish to plaintiffs' shop and failed to repay the monies lent. Plaintiffs found him in Hongkong in July last and took these proceedings for the balance of the various accounts amounting to \$522.30.

For the defence the defendant Wong Kan admitted a loan of \$450, but put in a book purporting to be an account chopped by the plaintiffs of all loans and of all fish supplied by him and showing a balance due from him of \$170 only, which he paid into Court.

He also called a witness to prove that the chop on the book produced was the genuine chop used by the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs stated that the book and chop were pure fabrications.

Mr. Slade, summing up the defendant's case, contended that plaintiffs had failed to discharge the onus which lay on them of proving defendant's book to be a forgery, and suggested that plaintiff had two sets of chops, using each set as occasion served. He could not disprove the plaintiffs' account books, but he submitted that it was highly improbable that an illiterate man like defendant could have concocted the book he relied upon, which, if a forgery, was a marvellously skilful one. He asked for judgment on the admissions made by plaintiffs in chopping defendant's book.

The Judge (without calling upon Mr. Bowley to reply) said that on the first hearing of the case he considered the plaintiffs had failed to make out their case, but on the evidence now produced he held that the plaintiffs had proved their case and gave judgment for the full amount of the claim with costs.

13th August.

JOHNSON, STOKES, AND MASTER V. GROSSMAN AND CO.

In this action the plaintiffs sought to recover \$338.50, being the amount due for work done and money expended as solicitors for the defendants.

Mr. H. L. Dennys (Crown Solicitor) appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. J. F. Reece represented the defendants.

The case was before the Court on the 15th July and 9th August.

His Lordship delivered the following judgment:—In this suit the plaintiffs sue for \$338.50, being the total amount due on



three bills of costs delivered to the defendants. However, two of these bills of costs have been satisfied and the sole amount in dispute is \$84, the balance of the third bill. Some time last year the defendants had some dispute with a man named Bornemann with reference to certain trade marks and they employed the plaintiff firm as their solicitors. Negotiations went on and an agreement was come to by which defendants agreed to pay the plaintiffs \$100 as costs. Subsequently plaintiffs sent in a bill for \$184, to which the defendants demurred on the ground that the agreement was that the \$100 was paid in full settlement of costs. Plaintiffs say that the \$100 was taken, as far as they were concerned, only as part payment of costs. The question is, was there a binding agreement that this \$100 should be paid in full satisfaction of costs? An agreement might be either expressed or implied, but I think there is no doubt there was no expressed agreement between the parties. The sole question, therefore, for me to decide is whether from the conduct of the plaintiffs the defendants were justified in believing that the \$100 was paid in full satisfaction. I do not think the defendants were justified in believing that. There is not the slightest doubt in my own mind that the plaintiffs never intended that the \$100 should be taken except by way of part payment, although I think the defendants really believed that it was in full payment. From a legal point of view, however, they were not justified in coming to that conclusion. Therefore judgment will be for the plaintiffs for the full amount with costs.

Judgment was entered accordingly.

#### THE QUEEN'S ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF THE HONGKONG TELEGRAMS.

The following despatch from the Secretary of State to the Governor is published in Saturday's Gazette:—

Downing Street,  
7th July, 1897.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegrams noted in the margin congratulating Her Majesty the Queen on the completion of the sixtieth anniversary of Her accession to the Throne from yourself and the Executive and Legislative Councils of Hongkong, from the inhabitants of the Colony, from the Masonic Brotherhood of Hongkong and South China, and from the St. Andrew's Society of Hongkong.

The telegrams have been laid before the Queen, and Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to command me to convey to the senders through you Her cordial thanks for their loyal and sympathetic messages of congratulation.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir W. ROBINSON, G.C.M.G., &c.,  
— &c., &c.

#### MR. HERBERT SMITH AND THE LIGHT DUES COMMISSION.

The following letter has been forwarded to us for publication:—

Hongkong, 12th August, 1897.

Sir,—I have the honour to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that I have, from the 7th inst., withdrawn from the Commission appointed, under date of the 5th June last, "to enquire generally into the charges levied by the Government on shipping frequenting the waters of the colony and the items of expenditure or other charges on the revenue of the colony incurred by the Government in the interests of shipping."

My reasons for so withdrawing have been fully stated to the chairman and members of the Commission, and are very fully recorded in the minutes of proceedings, but as the discussion was rather prolonged and ranged over a variety of topics, I think it well to record here, as simply and clearly as I can, the motives that have influenced me in declining to take any further part in the enquiry.

The enquiry originated out of a demand by the shipping interest that light dues on shipping should be limited to the actual cost of the maintenance and upkeep of light houses, and

should not be levied in aid of the general revenue of the colony. His Excellency the Governor, in his despatch to the Secretary of State of the 18th January last, treating this as an admission that shipping should pay all expenses incurred by the colony on its behalf, reminded the Secretary of State that there were other expenses incurred, directly or indirectly, on behalf of shipping besides those for light-houses, the cost of which considerably exceeded the amount proposed to be levied for light dues, and which would justify even a heavier tax. The Secretary of State, in his reply, adopted this view and, while approving of the charge for the current year of 2½ cents per ton on general shipping, directed that next year the charge must be reduced to such a rate as will, with other harbour receipts, be sufficient to cover all harbour and light house expenditure, and he called upon the Governor to report at an early date what changes would be requisite to carry out that decision.

His Excellency's first movement was to refer the question for examination and report to three officers of the Government. They made a report which reached such fantastic dimensions that they had to confess that they were not quite clear whether they understood, or did not understand, the Secretary of State's directions and wishes. Then His Excellency appointed the present Commission.

I had, in my letter of 14th June, to take exception to certain paragraphs in that Commission which seemed to me to go far beyond the terms of Mr. Chamberlain's despatch, and which, in my opinion, were incapable of becoming the subject of any enquiry at all. The Governor was so good as to yield to my representations, and to remove the objectionable clauses from the Commission. The enquiry then proceeded, but the majority of the members have determined, losing sight of the Secretary of State's letter and of the true object of the enquiry, to limit it in such a way that no practical results can be attained. They have resolved that receipts from and expenditure on native and foreign shipping frequenting the port (taking shipping in its strictly legal interpretation, which they hold would not include boats, cargo-boats, launches, &c., &c., employed in the harbour) is the only object of the inquiry, and as I conceive "light dues and all other harbour receipts" and "all harbour and light house expenditure" as pointed out in the 5th paragraph of Mr. Chamberlain's despatch. That paragraph is, in my humble opinion, the sole reason for the appointment of the Commission, and defines the substance and limits of the enquiry. In such an enquiry I will gladly take part. In any other I see no utility.

May I beg that His Excellency the Governor will forward this letter, which I propose to publish in the local papers, to the Secretary of State at his early convenience, as the explanation of my withdrawal from the Commission.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

HERB. SMITH.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary.

#### THE ASSESSMENT.

Mr. A. Chapman's report on the assessment for 1897-98 is published in the Gazette. We make the following extract:—

By Order of His Excellency the Governor in Council I have made a new valuation of the City of Victoria and the Hill District.

The result of the new valuation is that the rateable value of the City of Victoria is now \$3,444,514 as against \$3,247,726 last year (1896-97), being an increase in rateable value of \$196,788 or 6.05 per cent.

The rateable value of the Hill District has been raised from \$107,850 last year (1896-97) to \$117,435, being an increase of \$9,585 or 8.88 per cent.

The rateable value of the Kowloon Peninsula has increased \$8,130 or 2.55 per cent., on account of new and improved tenements; and, owing to a similar cause, there is a small increase of \$254 in the rateable value of the Hongkong villages.

The rateable value of the whole colony is now \$4,010,502, an increase, as compared with last year's assessment, of \$214,757 or 5.61 per cent.

During the period from 1st July, 1896, to 1st June, 1897, interim valuations have been made as follows:—

#### IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA.

314 new tenements, rateable value	\$119,465
41 improved tenements, rateable value	\$26,745
Replacing assessments, amounting to	21,725
	<u>5,020</u>

\$124,485

95 assessments cancelled, tenements pulled down	32,754
---	--------

Increase in city of Victoria \$91,740

#### IN THE REST OF THE COLONY.

53 new tenements, rateable value	\$11,848
6 improved tenements, rateable value	\$1,680
Replacing assessments, amounting to	909

771

\$12,619

65 assessments cancelled, tenements pulled down	2,759
---	-------

Increase in the rest of the colony \$9,860

The total number of tenements affected by interim assessments being 574 and the increase in rateable value \$101,600.

The number of reported vacant tenements in the city of Victoria inspected under section 35 of the Rating Ordinance is, I am pleased to report, smaller, having averaged about 170 monthly against 250 last year.

#### DR. AYRES' FAREWELL.

The report of Dr. Ayres, late Colonial Surgeon, for 1896, is published in Saturday's Gazette. The following is the concluding portion of it:—

This is the last annual report I shall furnish as I am retiring on pension. In my twenty-three years' service as the head of the Civil Medical Department I think, it will be allowed, some improvements have been made. When I joined the service in the colony in 1873 I found my duties, besides general supervision of the department, were medical officer to the lock hospital, also to the gaol, which was then also used as a lunatic asylum. I was also in charge of the sanitary supervision of the colony with the assistance of two sanitary inspectors who had never been instructed in their duties which they performed in the best way they thought fit. I was also meteorological reporter to the Government. I was also expected to attend on all the families of subordinates of the Civil Service drawing under £400 a year. A very sufficiently complicated set of duties for one man. I was also expected to make up £200 a year of my pay by private practice, this being the sum deducted from the pay of my predecessors for the privilege of having private practice. The lock hospital was the only decent building belonging to the department. The Government Civil Hospital was a wretched old bungalow formerly in occupation of a Mission, wholly unfitted for the purpose. The superintendent and Mr. Bothelo, who was apothecary, Government analyst, steward, storekeeper, and clerk, with Mr. De Souza, apothecary, steward and clerk of the lock hospital, were the only reliable subordinate officers in the medical department. The European wardmasters of the hospital knew nothing of their duties and were drunken beachcombers and, as a rule, changed every few months, being dismissed for drunkenness and neglect of duty. The nurses were ignorant Chinese coolies; one of them, afterwards the Chinese wardmaster, A Lok, was a thorough, good man, had been about 15 years in the service, was a competent and careful dresser and post mortem assistant. This institution was a wretched building with a wretched nursing staff, no armoury worthy of the name, not even a lancet fit to open a boil. The medical comforts were unwholesome milk and the cheapest brands of wine and spirits which I reported upon to Government and refused to permit the patients to touch. I had a good armoury of my own which I lent to the Hospital till I could get sanction for one from Government.



But my great anxiety was my sanitary responsibilities and I was thankful, when after ten years, an appeal to the Secretary of State from the Surveyor General and myself, Mr. Chadwick was sent out as sanitary commissioner, and his report resulted in the formation of a Sanitary Board, and relieved me of all further responsibility.

The hospital was reported on without effect, but it was blown down in the great typhoon of 1874. Then the vacant old Hotel d'Europe was taken for a hospital, a much better building in every respect but still not suited for a hospital either in construction or situation. That building was burnt down in the great fire of 1878 and then began the building of the present hospital by adding to the size of the lock hospital, not as satisfactory as I could wish but the best I was able to obtain.

The colony has now a very decent hospital which has had many improvements added to it and will have more in the near future; there is promise of a sufficient medical staff in the future. The nursing staff is all that can be desired. There are decent lunatic asylums, an infectious diseases hospital and hulk, a public mortuary and a fine building for the quarters of the nursing staff. An observatory has been built and has its own proper staff. The lock hospital, I regret to say, has been abolished and has become the female venereal wards of the Government Civil Hospital but only the very worst cases come in. The sanitary staff has been put on a proper footing, and the Sanitary Board indulges in less verbosity and does more business. What all my reports could not do the plague epidemic has done, opened the eyes of the public and Government here and at home to the deficiencies in the strength of the medical staff and the awful, unwholesome state of the colony, and its continued presence does not permit them to forget. In the near future there is a good prospect for the place I have so loved well and in which I have made so many friends, and so I say farewell with the profoundest regret.

### THE CENSUS REPORT.

The following report on the census of the colony for 1897, by Mr. A. W. Brown, the officer in charge of the census, is published in the *Gazette* :—

Registrar General's Office,  
Hongkong, 20th June, 1897.

Sir,—On the 30th November last instructions were received to take a census of the colony on the night of the 20th January on the same lines as the census taken in 1891.

2.—The suitability of the date was questioned by some who maintained that it was so near to China New Year's Day, which fell this year on the 2nd February, that the usefulness of the returns would be diminished owing to the custom, prevalent among the Chinese, of returning home for the new year. There was certainly some ground for this criticism, but after extensive enquiries I am inclined to think that the statistics, at any rate of Victoria, have not been seriously affected, the bulk of the people who leave the colony at the end of the year not starting until a few days later, and a number of Chinese coming from the mainland to Hongkong for a few days at this time. On the other hand, the quarrymen employed in the quarries along the Shauiwan Road had all left, and a number of fishing boats had gone, as is their custom, to Macao.

3.—The recurrence of the plague last year and the consequent exodus of a large number of the Chinese had prevented the census being taken at a much earlier date, and any postponement would have had to be for at least seven weeks.

4.—The Chinese population fluctuates exceedingly, and is affected one way or another by each one of the numerous festivals observed in China, and it is not easy to decide upon the best occasion for taking a census, but probably the most suitable time is early in the Chinese eleventh moon.

5.—The special object of the census was to discover, if possible, in what way the population of Victoria had been affected by the sanitary measures occasioned by the plague in 1894, such as the resumption of Taipingshan, the closing of basements, the removal of cock-

lofts and the enforcement of the laws against overcrowding. It will require an exact knowledge of the town and of the changes which have taken place since the last census to draw the correct deductions from the attached returns. Suffice it at present to point out that from table XIX. it appears that an area which was occupied by 110,007 persons in 1891 now holds 130,172, an increase of a little over 20,000, and that in every case where an enumerator has had to deal with more than 2,000 persons the number is very probably under the mark.

6.—The particulars required for the immediate purpose of the census were simply the age, sex and race of each person. In addition to these, however, the birth-places and native-places of the Chinese land population have been ascertained, and the birth-places and the various races of the Europeans, Americans, &c.

7.—The use of the two terms "race" and "nationality" gave rise to a discussion which was of an academic rather than of a practical interest, as the meaning which was to be attached to the two words was explained on the census schedules. Good authority can be found in modern standard dictionaries for conflicting uses of the words. Some natives of the British Isles seemed to have found a difficulty as to what entry should be made under the heading of race, but ninety-five per cent. elected to put themselves down as English, Scotch, Irish or Welsh.

8.—Certain preliminary returns were made public on the first of February. They were compiled from the figures furnished by each enumerator, and could only be regarded as approximate. In preparing the attached tables the schedules were compared with the enumerators' books and the necessary corrections made. With the exception of the Chinese population of Victoria in which an error of 4,700 had been made and of the non-Chinese population of British Kowloon in which there was one of 270, the corrections required were unimportant.

9.—The European and American population has been divided in some of the tables into Portuguese and those other than Portuguese. There is a sufficient distinction between the Portuguese population and other Europeans to make this division advisable and interesting. The Portuguese of Hongkong form a European community settled in the tropics, thoroughly acclimatised and apparently not recruited to any extent from Europe. It will not be for another generation that any other portion of the European community will be in a similar position. It is only now that a generation is growing up of Europeans born of parents themselves born in the colony. The difference between the composition of the Portuguese and of the British community will be seen from the following table :—

	British Resident Civil Population.			Portuguese Resident Civil Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years .....	138	147	285	134	127	261
5 and under 25 years	322	302	624	468	468	936
25 and under 50 years	749	395	1,144	299	466	765
50 and over .....	103	36	139	110	191	301
Not stated .....	12	9	21			
Total .....	1,324	880	2,213	1,011	1,252	2,263

There are several points of difference in the two communities, which consist of almost the same number of persons. There is one to which attention may incidentally be drawn, that twenty-one members of the British community were either unable or unwilling to state their exact age, and that twelve of these were men.

10.—Whatever may be their ethnographical position, for statistical purposes the Jews and Armenians have been included in the European and American population.

11.—The Indians are a sufficiently numerous and important body to appear separately.

12.—The return of the number of Eurasians is distinctly unsatisfactory. I am afraid that the arrangements made were not such as to ensure getting the correct number. It is quite evident that the 272 who have entered themselves as such in the census schedules form a very small portion of the Eurasian community. No doubt the large majority are included among the Chinese. In the settlement of Singapore the Eurasians in 1891 numbered 3,589.

13.—A detailed and exact comparison, according to locality of the component parts of the population in 1891, with the population in the present year has been found impossible owing to the form in which the figures were presented, but in table II. there will be found a fairly satisfactory one.

14.—Exclusive of the mercantile marine the European and American community in 1891 numbered 4,555. It has now risen to 5,532. The British resident civil population then amounted to 1,448, a number which does not apparently include the European police, 157 in number including women and children, nor the prisoners, nor some "temporary residents." In 1897, including these, it numbers 2,213 persons. The Portuguese community now consists of 2,263 persons as against 2,089 in 1891. The Germans, who numbered 208 in 1891, now number 292. The Americans have increased from 93 to 174, the French from 88 to 112, and the Spanish from 88 to 104. In 1891 there were 53 Europeans and Americans, "temporary residents," and 23 prisoners whose nationalities were not stated.

15.—Counting those persons over 15 years of age as adults we find that in the British community the percentage of adult females to adult males is 55. In 1891 it was 38 and in 1881, 48. This supports the statement in the report on the census of 1891 that family life among Europeans is increasing. Of the 2,374 persons of British origin enumerated in the census 1,466 claim to be English, 513 Scotch, 245 Irish and 26 Welsh. 1,580 or about two-thirds of the whole British population, were born in the British Isles, and 670 in other parts of the British Empire; 92 being born in Australia and New Zealand, 28 in Canada, and 457 in Hongkong. 72 were born in China and Japan. 241 persons of European and American race claim British nationality, including 118 Jews, 51 Portuguese, 18 Spaniards and 13 Armenians. Of the Eurasians 236 claim to be British subjects.

16.—Of the Portuguese population 1,214, or more than one-half, were born in Hongkong and 931 in Macao. 75 were born in China and Japan and 10 in Portugal. Only 51, as stated above, claim British nationality. The rest, with the exception of three, in whose case there is perhaps some confusion between race and nationality, remain subjects of the King of Portugal.

17.—The members of races other than European, American and Chinese, have increased in number from 1,439 to 2,502. Of these 272 are Eurasians. It is unfortunately not possible to say in which race the increase has been greatest. Most probably it is among the Indians. These now number 1,348, of whom 371 or 28 per cent. are females. Of the remaining 882, the Japanese number 335, the Malays 207, and the Filipinos 216. Of the Malays 131 or 63 per cent. are females, and of the Filipinos 82 or 38 per cent.

18.—In Return II. of the report on the census of 1891 the Chinese land population is stated to be 178,960. This number includes 1,132 persons employed in the mercantile marine, passengers, and on foreign men-of-war. The corresponding number for this year is 201,528 including 1,523 persons on board the foreign shipping. This is an increase of 22,568 or 12.61 per cent. In 1891 the number of adult males was 113,241 and of adult females 33,523; the percentage of the latter to the former being 29.60. In 1897 the number of adult females has risen to 38,860 and of adult males to 129,893, the percentage of females to males being 29.92. The number of Chinese families in Victoria in 1891 was said to be 14,120. In 1897, in the same area, it is returned as 21,740. This is an apparent increase of 53.88 per cent., and may be accounted for by heads of families neglecting to make the proper entry in the schedule in 1891. In the present census the enumerators were instructed to ascertain by enquiry the number of families in their sections, but the task of ascertaining the correct number is complicated by concubinage as well as by polygamy. There are two great hindrances to the increase of family life among the Chinese in Hongkong, namely, the position which the Chinese wife holds towards her parents-in-law and the difficulty of finding suit-



able accommodation affording privacy for families owing to the style of the buildings and the high rents.

19.—In the floating population the percentage of females to males is 60; the number of the latter being 19,872 and of the former 11,880. The total, 31,752, shows a decrease of 283 compared with last census. The correct enumeration of this portion of the community is an exceedingly difficult task unless it can be accomplished in one day. On this occasion the enumeration of the harbour was not completed until the 24th of January, the work having commenced on the 20th at 9 p.m., the enumerators working all night in order to get as much done as possible before the boats began to move.

20.—Of the Chinese land population, including those persons on board the European shipping, it is only a very inconsiderable number, namely, 4,002, who do not belong to the Kwang-tung province. There are 1,283 natives of the Fokien province, 336 of Kiang-su and 198 of Chekiang. Ten persons were not ashamed of belonging to the boat population, and 1,523 persons, of whom three-fifths are women, claim Hongkong as their native place. I think it probable that the persons who claim Annam, Corea and Siam as their native places are not Chinese, but Annamese, Coreans and Siamese. In addition to stating the district of China or the province to which they belonged the Chinese were asked to state their birth-place, if not born in China, and 9,033 persons give it as Hongkong. Very probably this number should be larger. In Wanchai there was current a report that all persons born in Hongkong were to be at once re-vaccinated. One woman who had told the enumerator that her children were born in Hongkong ran after him after he had left the house, and was very urgent that he should correct what she said was her mistake. In the same district on the first day on which the schedules were distributed several women left their homes and ran away to the hill-side at the back of the town. In Saiyingpun there was also a little commotion among the lower classes, and one Fokien man, at whose house a schedule was left, made a great disturbance. As he did not understand Cantonese and refused to look at the schedule, the misunderstanding was only put an end to by the chief watchman persuading him to go to one of the Fokien hongs where the taking of a census was explained to him. There was the usual number of persons who thought that they were being served with writs. In many cases it required some persuasion on the part of the enumerator to induce people to take the schedule, and I am afraid that where obstinacy seemed impervious to reason the enumerator was driven to refer rather roughly to the penal clauses of the census ordinance. The Registrar General's Office received the assistance of the Chinese press in an endeavour to give as much publicity as possible to the intention of the Government to take a census and to allay the usual suspicions, and I do not well see what more could have been done beyond perhaps making an attempt to reach the people through their children by preparing a brief lecture in Chinese on a census and asking the Chinese teachers of the grant-in-aid schools to explain it to their scholars.

21.—The natives of the Kwang-tung province number 197,526 persons. Of these, 156,603 belong to the Kwang-chau prefecture, of which Canton is the chief town. From the neighbouring district of San-on there are 21,697 persons in the colony. From Pun-ue and Namhoi, the two districts in which Canton is situated, 27,421 and 22,470 respectively, whilst 27,090 come from Tung-kun and 18,285 from San-ni.

22.—In the report on the census of 1891 the term Victoria was restricted to the ten registration districts, the eastern boundary of which is the west side of Causeway Bay. For sanitary purposes the town now extends as far as North Point, and in the present report the term Victoria is used in this sense unless another meaning is expressly given to it.

23.—The population of Victoria consists of 6,446 Europeans, Americans, Indians, Japanese, &c., 251 Eurasians and 160,273 Chinese. The population of each of the ten health districts into which the town is now divided is given in

table XX. For the purpose of comparison with the previous census, the Chinese population of eight of the registration districts is given in table XVIII. This table does not include the Chinese living in houses or tenements occupied by members of another race. The most noticeable feature in the return is the large increase of 11,011 (32 per cent) in the population of the Saiyingpun district. In the Taipingshan district there is an apparent decrease of 12,518, but in 1891 the houses which have since been destroyed in the Taipingshan Resumption Area were occupied by 13,643 persons, so there is an increase also here, though slight. In the Sheungwan district there is a decrease of 58. In the Chungwan district there is an increase of 5,001 or 14 per cent, and in the Hawan and Wanchai districts of 4,044 or 24 per cent. Table XIX, which gives the population of the sections into which the town was divided for the purpose of the census and the corresponding population in the year 1891, will be of assistance in an enquiry into the causes of this apparent increase. The number of prisoners in Victoria Goal was 24 Europeans and Americans, 7 Indians and other non-Chinese, and 485 Chinese.

24.—The European and American population of the Peak has increased from 213, excluding the Police, to 381. This latter number includes 5 persons occupants of the police stations. The number of children under 15 is 87. The Chinese population is 1,591. Of these, 427 were workmen employed on buildings in course of erection.

25.—The European and American population of the villages in Hongkong is not given in the report on the census of 1891. It is probably included under the heading Victoria. It now amounts to 125.

26.—The district of Shauiwan shows a slight increase in the Chinese population from 7,272 to 7,438, notwithstanding that the three villages of Sant'sin, Hung-heung-16 and Tung-lo-wan are now included in Victoria and the village of Hoktsui in Stanley, and that the quarrymen to the number of about 500, according to the estimate of the police inspector in charge of the district, had left to spend the New Year holidays at their homes on the mainland.

27.—The increase in the population of the Stanley District is due to the presence of workmen employed on the Tytam Waterworks.

28.—The population of the Aberdeen District remains unchanged whilst there is an increase of 115 persons in the district of Pokfulam, of whom about 40 are workmen temporarily employed on a new building.

29.—The European and American population of British Kowloon has increased from 183 to 377. Of these, 93 are under 15 years of age. The Chinese population of the peninsula continues to grow rapidly. In 1881 it was 9,021. In 1891 it was 19,997. It is now 26,442. There are no particulars given in the report on the last census from which to ascertain in what part of the peninsula the increase has taken place, but it is sufficiently obvious without them. Yaumati is now a town of 8,000 inhabitants, Hunghom of 6,000, whilst there is a population of 3,500 round the promontory of Taikoktsui.

30.—The number of Europeans, Americans, and other non-Chinese on board the merchant shipping in the waters of the colony on the night of the census was 448 compared with 1,016 in 1891; the number of Chinese 1,523 compared with 1,063. Of the Europeans, 161 were British, 74 Germans, 29 Norwegians and 17 Swedish. There were 49 Americans, 63 Japanese and 12 Malays. The number of ships was 54.

31.—The Chinese floating population number 31,752 persons living on board 5,141 vessels. This is a slight decrease compared with the year 1891 when the population was 32,035 and the number of vessels 5,220. The number of fishing boats was 1,514 compared with 1,141 in the year 1891; the number of boats plying in the waters of the Colony 3,408, and the number of passenger and trading junks 139. The population of the harbour was 21,311 compared with 23,662 in the year 1891. Of these 13,187 were found in boats moored on the south shore and in the middle of the harbour and 7,624 along the north shore, compared with 17,215 and 6,447 respectively in the year 1891. But the position of the boats is

largely affected by the weather, and cannot be depended upon. The floating population of Shauiwan remains practically the same; that of Aberdeen shows an increase caused by the presence of a number of fishing boats which lie up there for the New Year. The anchorage at Stanley is unsafe during the south-west monsoon when it is almost deserted. This accounts for there being only ninety boats there at the time of the last census which was taken on the 20th May. The number of boats at Stanley on this occasion was 206, of which 201 were fishing boats, and the police officer in charge of that station reports that the number of the latter would have been greater but that during the days previous to the census some had left the anchorage for Aberdeen and Macao for the New Year holidays.

## THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held on 14th Aug. at the City Hall. Mr. St. C. Michaelsen presided and there were also present—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. J. D. Boning, R. M. Gray, D. Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, R. L. Richardson, N. A. Siebs, and Gerald Slade (Directors), Thomas Jackson (Chief Manager), Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., Messrs. H. N. Mody, V. A. Cesar Hawkins, G. Stewart, J. H. Lewis, G. H. Potts, A. Coutts, J. D. Smart, C. J. Gonsalves, J. E. Thompson, E. Georg, A. Hancock, S. Hancock, D. Gillies, Geo. Murray Bain, Henry Humphreys, F. Henderson, W. S. Ramsay, H. M. Mehta, W. Lysaught, S. B. Bhnba, J. R. Michael, J. M. S. Alves, A. Wright, T. Brown, F. N. Firth, G. C. Cox, C. S. Sharp, M. Chinoy, E. S. Whealler, Ho Fook, F. Dodwell, Dr. Hartigan, C. Palmer, Anderson, E. Jones Hughes, Findlay Smith, A. Haupt, Sugden etc.

The CHIEF MANAGER read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN read the report of the Court of Directors.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the directors are pleased to meet you on the present occasion with a very favourable report. The half year has been one of many fluctuations, and of more than ordinary anxieties to the management of Eastern Banks generally. Dealing as we have been with what we are sorry to describe as a depreciating currency, it has been a difficult matter to meet all the demands of our constituents for sterling and rupee remittances, and at the same time to safeguard the interests of the Bank. It is well known to all our friends that in trying times we have not shirked our responsibilities in the matter of facilitating their exchange operations, and the report just read is a very satisfactory proof that we have succeeded in making their interests harmonize with ours. On previous occasions we seldom referred to the silver question, perhaps prudently leaving the difficult question to wiser heads than ours; however it is expedient to take this opportunity of defining our position with regard to the white metal. It will be seen from the report that we have £3,065,900 5s.10d. in current accounts in London; this large amount is principally owing to the Governments we have recently been negotiating loans for and is held there in liquid securities. Our ordinary current accounts in London are about one sixth of the amount, say a little over £500,000, which may be taken to represent our sterling liability with regard to current accounts. Our other sterling liabilities are our fixed deposits in London, amounting to £2,610,278 5s.31d. These are employed in our ordinary outward business to the branches, and are at all times covered by the sterling and rupee investments we have in London, by bills in hand and by sterling remittances on the way from the East. At no time are our sterling liabilities allowed to exceed our sterling assets, in fact very much the reverse, so that while the fall in silver is a matter of regret to us, it is not, and will not be allowed to be a source of loss to our profit and loss account. (Applause.) I hope I have made myself perfectly plain upon this point and that my explanation will be satisfactory to all our shareholders and depositors. Home investors in our shares will naturally look to the



depreciating value of the dollar. Our capital consists of ten millions of dollars. Only quite recently the sterling value of same at exchange of 2/6d was £1,250,000, still more recently at exchange of 2/-, it represented £1,000,000, and within the last few weeks it has gone under that amount, and at 1/10d, the lowest point touched, it represents £927,083. To make up for the shrinkage in the sterling value of our capital I have great pleasure in stating that the value of our sterling securities in London exceeds by £95,890 the amount at which they stood in our books on the 30th of June last,—(applause)—not taking into consideration the difference in exchange on the £250,000 Consols standing in our books, as you will observe from the report, at 95 and Ex. 2/6d. as compared with 1/11d on the 30th of June. (Applause.) You are aware that a large portion of our business is with India where we have to deal with a protected and a contracted currency. Before the closing of the mints in June, 1893, we could count upon an out-turn of 221 for any dollars shipped to India for conversion into rupees; said rate was looked upon as a minimum. Within the last few days the rate touched Rs. 144 for \$100, a very heavy margin for the Indian export trade to the Far East to contend with. Rs. 50 lacs of the Bank's capital are devoted to the Indian, Ceylon, and Burmah agencies. The capital stands at an exchange of Rs. 200 for \$100, so that if it were withdrawn at an exchange of Rs. 150 for \$100 we would net the round sum of Rs. 12½ lacs. (Applause.) You will therefore see that with our rupee, as also with our sterling commitments the Bank is in a very fine position. From the 1st of October next, Japan will be on a gold basis, and silver will only be used as a subsidiary currency. In thus changing their standard a sturdy prop is taken from silver. When their decision became known a sharp drop took place which has continued with more or less regularity ever since. Under Japan's new currency laws we can look for a steady exchange there, and should silver either decline still further or remain about present price we will realize a very handsome profit on the large amount of the Bank's funds in that country. Therefore from many points of view the recent heavy depreciation in the price of silver cannot be looked upon as an unmixed evil to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. (Applause.) At our last meeting reference was made to the expectation of an increasing trade in the Far East, and although development has not yet come with giant strides, signs are not wanting that a more enlightened policy in the treatment of foreign trade by the rulers of the vast Chinese Empire will conduce towards this desirable result. We have in the opening of ports on the West River and facilities to trade there the first fruits of this policy, which is receiving more than encouragement from our official representatives. The depreciation in silver has placed surrounding countries which are now on a gold basis at a disadvantage in their trade with China, and will unquestionably give a further impetus to manufacturing enterprise in China and Hongkong, so that we may see considerable changes in the current of trade in the not very distant future, but whatever changes may be in store for us it will be the earnest endeavour of this Bank to be always ready to meet them with benefit, not only to our constituents, but also to our shareholders. (Applause.) The profits for the half year admit of paying the usual dividend of £1 5s. per share, placing five lacs to reserve, and carrying forward about three lacs. I need hardly remind you that the lower exchange goes the more onerous the task will be of maintaining a sterling dividend of £1 5/- per share; however, without being over sanguine I wish to express our confidence in being able to do so. During the late prosperous years we have made our accounts very comfortable, and have still unappropriated a considerable amount of the profits realized on the negotiations of the loans we recently participated in. After transferring the above five lacs our reserve fund will stand at \$7,000,000 and it is our intention to add to this as much as possible at the end of each half year. So that our position is an excellent one and with the steady support of our shareholders and constituents we have every reason to look confidently to the

future. (Applause). In conclusion, I have great pleasure in recording our high appreciation of the able manner in which we have been served by the Chief Manager and the staff generally during the half year. (Applause.) It is to their efforts we are principally indebted for the successful working of the Bank during a period which called for very careful steering. Our thanks are especially due to our Chief Manager,—(applause)—to whose foresight and ability a very considerable portion of our success is due. I have no doubt that shareholders, not only here but everywhere, will cordially concur in what I have just stated. (Applause.) Before moving the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts, I shall be glad to answer to the best of my ability any questions shareholders may wish to ask.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and passing of accounts.

Mr. J. H. LEWIS—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I am sure that we all have listened to the remarks of the Chairman with much interest. (Applause.) The report before us is to my mind a highly satisfactory one, and remembering what we have just been told regarding our sterling investments, funds in Japan, and capital in India, I think we may safely congratulate ourselves in being in a remarkably strong position. The strength of it, as revealed by the very full statement which you have just heard, should have the effect of removing any apprehension which may have arisen in the minds of those who feared the fall in silver might adversely affect our interests. The Chairman has so clearly and fully explained the position of the Bank that it is unnecessary for me to refer to it beyond saying that all shareholders must agree with me that seeing our reserve fund so steadily mounting up is a sure indication that in spite of fluctuations in exchange and competition we are still able to hold our own, and that we may confidently look forward to our interests being as ably guarded in the future as they have been in the past. I have, therefore, much pleasure, gentlemen, in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts. (Applause).

Carried.

Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS proposed the confirmation of Messrs. David Gubbay, A. J. Raymond, Gerald Slade, and G. D. Böning as Directors.

Mr. G. STEWART seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I thank you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. (Applause.)

Mr. D. GILLIES—Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in expressing a few words of satisfaction at the very excellent report which has been presented to shareholders and in complimenting the Board of Directors on this occasion for the very skilful and able manner in which they have conducted the business of the Bank. For although we have had to contend against much keen competition and rivalry, yet I feel justified in stating that at no former period of our history has the Bank ever rested on a more solid foundation. At any rate I am sure the position is such as must commend itself to every shareholder who holds the welfare of the Bank above either private or personal considerations. Our prosperity during the past six months, notwithstanding the great uncertainty that has attended most commercial enterprises and the very great anxiety and difficulty that must have been experienced in following the right course with regard to silver, indicates that our Board of Directors, our very able Manager and his staff—(applause)—have all exerted their talents and their zeal to the utmost in order to place before us such a very creditable balance sheet. (Applause.) As a proof of our confidence I most cordially ask you to accord a very hearty vote of thanks to those gentlemen, the Board of Directors, our able Manager, and the staff. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN—On behalf of the Directors, the Chief Manager and staff, I beg to thank you for your vote of thanks. We shall all continue to do our best for the future welfare of the Bank. (Applause.)

## HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders to be held at the offices of the Company on Monday, 23rd August:—

To the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 30th June last.

The total receipts for the six months are \$1,255,248.30, and the net profit, after paying interest due and all charges, amount to \$325,345.88 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account... 104,104.71

\$429,450.59

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' Fees.....\$7,000.00

Auditors' Fees ..... 500.00

7,500.00

leaving available for appropriation \$421,950.59

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 8% or \$125,000 and a bonus of 4% or \$62,500 aggregating \$187,500 be paid to the shareholders, and a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, that \$5,427.08 be written from the value of the Kowloon Docks (\$20,572 paid during 6 months on account of reconstruction of No. 1 slip passed direct to debit of Revenue Account), \$7,599.47 from Cosmopolitan Docks, and \$5,633.12 from the steam launches, that \$100,000 be passed to Reserve Fund, and the balance, \$95,790.92, be carried to new account.

Slip No. 1 has been put in thorough good order, the whole of the part under water having been renewed. The work is nearly completed and the cost will be within the sum estimated at our last meeting.

During the six months the electric light has been introduced into the saw-mill, joiner's shop, and boat-builder's shed, and a new process of galvanizing by electric deposit, both of which have given very great satisfaction.

The Company is in treaty with the Government for a further extension of land on the North-West boundary, Hung Hom, and a resolution to enable the Board to acquire this land on behalf of the Company will be submitted at this meeting.

St. C. MICHAELSEN,  
Chairman.

Hongkong, 11th August, 1897.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT. JANUARY TO JUNE, 1897.	
30th June, 1897.	ASSETS. \$ c.
Aberdeen.	
To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement .....	100,000.00
Kowloon.	\$ c.
To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement .....	1,118,475.95
Less amount since written off .....	43,475.95
	1,075,000.00
To amount paid purchase money Hunghom inland lots Nos. 171 and 172 .....	5,000.00
To balance of contract paid Chang Ying Cheong for excavation .....	450.00
To amount paid on account for removal of hill on the new extension to marine lot No. 27, Kowloon .....	2,056.30
To amount paid during six months on account of 16 new houses .....	15,373.15
To amount paid for the erection of new work-shops and fitting up new galvanizing plant, (electric process) .....	13,737.00
To amount paid for new electric lighting installation and fitting up same in sawmill, joiner's shop and boat shed .....	6,392.63
To amount paid on account of new chimney for engine and boiler shops .....	2,100.00
To cost of new machines added during the six months .....	10,318.00
	1,130,427.08
Cosmopolitan Dock.	
To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement .....	267,779.68
Less amount since written off .....	17,779.68
	250,000.00



To amount paid on account of new sea wall and reclamation during past six months .....	8,647.88
To amount paid on account of extension to European quarters during past six months ..	2,920.00
To amount paid on account of building boundary wall .....	500.00
To cost of new machines added during last six months .....	5,531.59
	267,599.47
Tug, Launches, and Lighters.	
To value of Fame as per last account .....	1,000.00
To value of 12 steam launches, steam lighter and boats, as per last account .....	30,000.00
To cost of new harbour launch, K. No. 7, and of launches K. No. 5 and A. No. 1 .....	25,633.12
	65,633.12
To Humphreys' Estate and Finance Company 6 per cent. mortgage debentures .....	100,000.00
To 5 shares, China Fire Insurance Company, Limited .....	109.00
To Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash on current account .....	51,431.23
To sundry debtors .....	99,112.21
To cost of material on hand .....	947,109.10
	\$2,766,481.21

30th June, 1897. LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid up .....	1,562,500.00
By reserve fund .....	600,000.00
By admiralty loan £20,000 0 0	
Less repayments .. 7,565 14 8	
	£12,434 5 4 @ 1 1/11 1/2
	125,651.54
By sundry creditors .....	48,879.08
By balance of profit brought forward from last account .....	\$ c. 104,104.71
By profit .....	325,345.88
	429,450.59
	\$2,766,481.21

30th June, 1897. REVENUE ACCOUNT.	\$ c.
To cost of labour, material, and working expenses of the Company's 3 establishments ..	877,950.00
To amount paid during six months on account of reconstruction of No. 1 slip .....	20,572.00
To Crown rent .....	1,784.51
To interest .....	480.96
To fire insurance .....	1,645.06
To office expenses, salaries, stationery, and rent of head office .....	21,607.01
To drawing office expenses and salaries .....	3,519.63
To telegrams .....	479.26
To legal expenses .....	150.00
To admiralty loan exchange adjustment account .....	213.99
To subscription to Indian Famine Fund .....	500.00
To subscription to Diamond Jubilee Fund ..	1,000.00
To profit .....	325,345.88
	\$1,255,248.30

1st January to 30th June.	\$ c.
By gross earnings of the Company's three establishments .....	1,250,185.23
By towage net earnings .....	4,322.81
By transfer fees .....	119.00
By bonus on premia, &c .....	621.26
	\$1,255,248.30

### THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors to be presented at the ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Hotel, at noon on Saturday, 21st August:—

In accordance with section 53 of the Articles of Association, the directors have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders their half-yearly report for the six months ending 30th June, 1897.

#### ACCOUNTS.

The profit on working account for the half-year amounted to \$48,644.39, as compared with \$35,489.52 for the corresponding six months of 1896, being an increase of \$13,154.87, or of \$29,433.34 over the net profits on the working account for the same period of 1895.

Including a balance of \$447.38 brought forward from 31st December, 1896, the profit and loss account shows a credit balance of \$31,791.70 (after transferring from it \$6,000 to credit of repairs and renewals account and writing off \$378.68

on account of bad debts and refunds) as compared with \$22,024.45 at credit of the account on the 30th June, 1896, and \$5,668.38 at credit on 30th June, 1895.

The directors propose, with your sanction, to deal with the balance of \$31,791.70 as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half-year, absorbing ..	\$13,318.50
To write off from value of furniture and fixtures .....	5,000.00
To carry forward to new account .....	13,473.20

\$31,791.70

The Directors think it prudent to carry forward the above substantial sum of \$13,473.20 in view of the fact that the profits of the latter half of the year have in past years invariably fallen short of the profits for the six months ending 30th June.

#### BUSINESS.

The increase in the profits for the past half-year has been mainly due to economies effected, and, in a minor degree, to a longer season for visitors.

The bar business has latterly increased owing to the improvements effected in that department and the acquisition of the refrigerator, which has been in successful operation for the past four months. The improvement, however, still falls far short of what may be hoped for when Pedder's Wharf is reconstructed, and the landing traffic, so long diverted, is again brought back into its accustomed channel.

#### DIRECTORS.

Messrs. R. C. Wilcox and W. Parfitt retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDIT.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and W. H. Gaskell, whose re-election is recommended.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,  
Chairman.

Hongkong, 12th August, 1897.

#### BALANCE SHEET, 30TH JUNE, 1897.

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital—	
\$879 shares at \$50 each (fully paid-up) ..	443,950.00
Mortgage to Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited .....	500,000.00
Accounts payable .....	18,758.09
Repairs and renewals account .....	2,315.52
Profit and loss account .....	31,791.70
	\$996,815.31

ASSETS.	\$ c.
Value of land and buildings as per last report:—	
Marine lot No. 5, and remaining portion of marine lot No. 3 ..	\$412,523.04
Remaining portion of marine lot No. 7 .....	408,157.26
Praya reclamation .....	18,036.42
	838,716.72
Value of furniture and fixtures as per last report .....	\$74,936.95
Less written off as recommended in last report .....	5,000.00
	\$69,936.97
Since added .....	11,926.75
	81,863.72

Stock of wines, provisions, and household sundries .....	17,213.03
Steam launch .....	2,500.00
Cash in hand .....	124.28
Shares in public companies .....	7,019.19
Licences attaching to second half, 1897 ..	312.00
Fire insurance to second half, 1897 .....	1,439.45
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .....	36,895.93
Accounts receivable .....	9,093.67
Stationery on hand .....	1,637.32
	\$996,815.31

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1897.

Dr.	\$ c.
To directors' and auditors' fees .....	1,650.00
To bad debts and refunds attaching to 1896-1897 .....	378.68
To rates and taxes .....	2,840.50
To interest account .....	15,465.67
To fire insurance .....	1,440.00
To Crown rent .....	365.90
To repairs and renewals account .....	6,000.00
To balance .....	31,791.70
	\$59,932.45

By balance from 31st Dec., 1896 ..	\$7,447.38
By less amount written off furniture and fixtures account .....	\$5,000.00
By less amount transferred to repairs and renewals account (as recommended in last report) .....	2,000.00
	7,000.00
	447.38

By rents of shops and offices .....	10,527.00
By dividends on shares .....	313.68
By profit on hotel working account for six months ending 30th June, 1897 .....	48,644.39
	\$59,932.45

REPAIRS AND RENEWALS ACCOUNT.	\$ c.
To payments on account of repairs and renewals during the half year ended 30th June, 1897 .....	5,769.65
To Balance .....	2,315.52
	\$8,085.17

By transfer from profit and loss account as recommended in last report .....	\$ c. 2,000.00
By transfer from profit and loss account during the half year ended 30th June, 1897 ..	6,000.00
By refunds .....	85.17
	\$8,085.17

### LI HUNG-TSAO.

The Rev. Gilbert Reid writes to the *N. C. Daily News* as follows:—

The announcement of the death of the aged official in Peking, Li Hung-tsao, brings even to me, a foreigner, a sense of loss. He was one of the few officials in Peking for whom I have had both admiration and affection. A man simple in his habits, unaffected and old-fashioned, he was a true Chinese patriot, sterling in his character, an official of integrity, in so far as the Chinese methods will allow. Few officials in Peking will be more sincerely missed than this one who has entered the bark and sailed over the river. During the war, Li Hung-tsao and Weng Tung-ho were the special opponents of Li Hung-chang, and together they worked to get hold of the head of the First Grand Secretary, stubbornly remaining in Tientsin. Notwithstanding this fact, there was, at least in the case of Li Hung-tsao, the exhibition of conscientious conviction pleasant to see amid the official corruption of this vast empire. Knowing of this rivalry, I have frequently in conversation with Li Hung-chang, and especially to counter-balance his teasing or chaffing, praised the character of Li Hung-tsao and boldly declared him a personal friend. For nearly forty years has this man been an official in Peking, and as Weng Tung-ho is noted as Tutor of the present Emperor, so has he been known as the Tutor of the Emperor T'ung Chih. Among the younger men he has had, from his literary abilities, a large following. He was a Chinese scholar of the old school. His reputation therefore has been as leader of the conservative pro-Chinese party. If such was his position he was actuated by love of his own country and a sense of duty. Naturally, he was inclined for many years to look on progressive men as next door to being traitors. Anyway he was a good man, respected by the best men. Within the last year or two he has felt deeply the sad condition in which China is placed, her awful decline from past glory and security, and in looking around for a remedy he has more and more favoured measures of progress and Western ideas. At the same time he has felt far from friendly towards the foreigner, regarding the present decline as largely due to the arrival of the foreigner from all the strong nations of the world. He longed for the good old days, when China dwelt apart—her own constellation. It was during the war that I made the acquaintance of this sterling old official. Owing to the necessity of his appearing daily at Court, as member of the Cabinet, he seldom stopped at his own house in the southern city, but occupied a few rooms behind a small shop just outside the east gate of the Forbidden City. Twice I met him at this place, and each time he went to the trouble of dressing himself in his full robes, and, when I left, of escorting me clear through the court and the shop to where my cart was



standing. The kindness of the old man—such a contrast to so much of the roughness one meets in life—raised both him and the Chinese character in my estimation. I cherish the memory and I venerate the man. Once in conversation he said to me something like this, after reading through a short document I had prepared on "The Needs of the Time." "Oh, what a change has come over China! For the last thirty years she has been getting weaker. The trouble is with the officials, for they have lost the confidence of the people. It is not like former days when we had Tseng Kuo-fan and Tso Tsung-t'ang. It looks as if nothing could be done." He wanted to see his country prosperous and secure, but he saw no way to bring it about. The friendship of this man, begun only some two years and a-half ago, remained until I left the city of Peking. For many months he was on sick-leave, not expected to recover, and yet at different times matters that I had discussed on paper were referred privately to him, and always he showed interest in them, and what is more, was ready to speak a good word to others. His two sons are favourites of mine, well brought up, studious, thoughtful, unassuming, and steady in their habits. While the great Chinese families become useless, if not extinct, in one, two, or three generations, the moral character of these young men seems to guarantee that the race and name of Li Hung-tsao will not cease to be. As the old men are one by one passing away, it is to be hoped that the younger men with all their progress, Western ideas, and knowledge of English, will not forget to imitate and live out the moral teachings and example of Li Hung-tsao and all China's truest men.

#### A JAPANESE JOURNAL ON JAPANESE VANITY.

We learn from the "Spirit of the Vernacular Press" in the *Japan Mail* that the *Jiji Shimpō* addresses to its readers a wholesome warning against the spirit of inflated vanity that seems to have taken possession of so many Japanese in recent times. People talk largely of Japanese progress, but, after all, what is that progress? By what standard is it judged? If Japan's former condition be taken as a basis of comparison, it is undoubtedly true that she has made great advances, but if the condition of Occidental countries be considered, she is still in a very poor state. She conquered China, it is true, but victory signified very little, for China was already tottering, and a slight push from Japan sufficed to overthrow her. Thirty-five years ago, England and France, with a handful of men, marched across China and seized the capital, and in more recent times, Admiral Courbet, with a small squadron, effectually paralysed the naval strength of the Chinese. Undoubtedly the China of 1894 was much better equipped than the China of 1861 or 1884 but the Chinese themselves had not changed: a victory over them cannot be taken as any indication of special prowess on the part of the conqueror. Since then, Japan has elaborated a scheme of military and naval expansion, and many of her people are astonished at its dimensions. But what a paltry affair it will be, after all, in comparison with the armaments of Occidental Powers! Some folks point with pride to the growth of Japan's foreign trade. There has certainly been a great development. From a total of sixty million *yen*, it has grown to nearly three hundred millions. On the other hand, is such a figure worthy to be mentioned in the same breath with England's 738 millions sterling; France's 724 million francs; Germany's 794 million marks; Russia's 1,228 million roubles, and America's 1,642 million dollars? The fact is that Japan having so much lee-way to make up, her progress is remarkable in comparison with her former backwardness, but all the while that she advances, Western countries are advancing also, and it will be time enough for her to feel some satisfaction when she gets fairly within sight of them. A similar criticism applies to the field of education. The number of public schools and private schools has increased largely, but has the intellectual condition of the people been greatly raised? Do we not still see folks believing in charms and amulets, and wor-

shipping at the shrines of imaginary deities? And do we not see that even men wearing foreign dress and professing to be leaders of progress are tainted by the same superstitions and traditions? This progress so much vaunted is, in truth, only relative; it looks large because the unit of measurement is small. There is indeed one solid fact, namely, that since the war foreign countries have begun to pay attention to Japan and to think it worth their while to place obstacles in the path of her national development, and the Japanese have the pleasure of feeling that their condition is described by the old aphorism *gashin shotan* (sleeping among faggots and living in dread). But there are few indications that the situation is appreciated. Scholars and leaders of thought seem content to let things take their course, and to amuse themselves composing verses, making tea, collecting objects of art, and gazing at pictures. There must be a large access of earnestness and honest appreciation if real progress is to be achieved.

#### OFFICIAL CHANGES AT PEKING.

By the death of H.E. the late Li Hung-tsao, there seems to have been a general redistribution of posts in the Metropolitan and Court administrations. Any one versed in mandarin lore and acquainted with the working of the wheels within wheels of the Chinese official hierarchy, can read between the lines and see within them the popularity of this or that official with the Emperor. For in this redistribution of seats, authorised by the decrees of the 3rd and 4th instant, some have been advanced whilst others have, on the other hand, received a fall from their original positions. By an edict of the 4th instant Kang Yi—called to Peking in 1894 from his Governorship of Kwangtung and a prime favourite of the Emperor—President of the Board of Works, is made to interchange posts with Sung Kuei, President of the Board of Punishments. Both are Manchus. But after the Boards of Civil Appointments and Revenue, the post of President of the Board of Punishments comes next, or third on the list, in point of remunerativeness, amongst the Six Boards of Peking, while it is also senior in rank to that of the Board of Works, which is last on the list. Hence, although the interchange may seem commonplace enough to outsiders, the fact is that Kang Yi receives a promotion while Sung Kuei drops a point in the estimation of the Court. Another edict of the same date appoints Li Tuan-fen, Senior (Chinese) Vice-President of the Board of Punishments, to be Director General of the Imperial Granaries at N. T'ungchow and Peking (*lit.* Vice-President of the Imperial Granaries under the Board of Revenue) vice Liao Shou-heng, promoted to the Presidency of the Court of Censors. Then comes the greatest surprise of all, for the same edict commands Chao Shu-ch'iao, Governor of Kiangsu, to take the post vacated by Li Tuan-fen and be Senior Vice-President of the Board of Punishments—in other words, Governor Chao is transformed, at a stroke of the Emperor's pen, from a provincial magnate to a Court Minister. Many people amongst the Chinese official classes will consider this a grand advancement to Governor Chao, who only a short three years ago—June, 1894—was merely a 4th rank officer or Taotai of the treaty port of Wenchow, and doubtless the Emperor, who is a great admirer of Governor Chao, thinks that the latter ought to be thankful for this distinction that has been conferred upon him. But if we know anything about it, we do not think that this official will feel very much elated at his translation to Peking to play twentieth fiddle in the Court orchestra, when he is first fiddle—nominally second—in Kiangsu. And what is of infinitely more importance to the progress and welfare of this province, the inhabitants of it will lose a very able and clean-handed Governor. Another edict of the same date appoints K'uei Chün (Manchu), the former Governor of Kiangsu who went into mourning in 1894 on the death of his nonagenarian mother, who died at this port in August of that year, to be acting Governor of Kiangsu. In other words, the Emperor kills two birds with one stone by this action. He gets his favourite by his side and appoints another Manchu into the provinces—a policy similar to

that of his uncle Hsien Fêng, which was one of the main causes of the Taiping Rebellion, and will doubtless be made the most of by the secret society emissaries scattered like ants, just now, throughout the empire.—*N. C. Daily News.*

#### SALVING THE "LAIYUEN."

The *Yomiuri* prints an account of the operations proceeding at Weihaiwei from the chief of the salvors. We use the translation in the *Japan Times*:—"My first project was to float the vessel as she lay. The impossibility of this, however, was soon demonstrated, by experts and the officials of the Naval Department, and the idea was abandoned. As the only alternative, the application of dynamite was thus necessitated, to break up the wreck and raise it piece by piece. On examining the sunken ship, we found that the Japanese fish-torpedo discharged from No. 9 torpedo-boat in the course of the attack on Wei-hai-wei had struck near the electric apparatus, smashing the ship's side to the extent of about two *tatami* without and about twelve *tatami* within. On further search, the tail of the very fish-torpedo, over 4 *shaku* long, was discovered. This valuable relic of the late war was at once forwarded to the Navy Department, and it is now in the custody of the Imperial Household Department. Parts of the engines, stores, magazine, a torpedo, a cannon, and a large quantity of steel have so far been saved from the wreck." The profit realized by Mr. Nakamura from these operations is said to be over 80,000 *yen*, and if the earnings of those engaged in raising the *Teiyen* and *Iyen* be added to this the aggregate sum will exceed 400,000 *yen*.

#### MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 13th August.

The Harbour Improvement Committee, having held meetings daily for over a month, the other day presented to H. E. Senhor Galhardo the first section of its report. It is an able document and much credit must be given to the committee, which is composed as follows:—Mr. Abreu Nunes, Director of Public Works, President; Mr. Talone e Silva, Harbour Master; Mr. Barbosa, Inspector da Fazenda, and two officers of the *Thomas Andrea*. The report covers the improvement projected by the Government in connection with the Praya Grande reclamation. It is proposed to draw a line from Government House to the Public Gardens and to reclaim the ground within the line, that is, to build a new Praya wall twenty-five or thirty metres outside the present one. The reclaimed ground would be available for building and the present Praya Grande would become an inland road with houses on each side of it. From the east end of the Praya Grande below S. Francisco Fort it is proposed to run out a breakwater, so that between the new Praya Grande and the breakwater there will be a large bay suitable for anchorage. If the scheme is carried out great credit will be bestowed on Senhor Galhardo. No doubt His Excellency knows what should be done and will impress on the home Government the importance of allowing all the colony's money to remain here for use in effecting local improvements. The longer the work is delayed the more it will cost, and at present it will cost more than if it had been carried out a few years ago. At that time the eyes of the home Government were shut, but now I believe they have awakened from their long sleep, and as Senhor Galhardo is a man of influence perhaps his representations respecting the necessity of harbour improvements will be attended to. I sincerely hope so and that the pains and labour the Harbour Improvement Committee have bestowed on this matter will not go for nothing. If the scheme is not executed in its entirety let us hope that at least part of it will be carried out.

Last Monday about noon the weather became very threatening and every one expected that the colony was about to be visited by a typhoon, and the junks and even the steamers on their arrival sought places of shelter. The barometer was very low, but fortunately the expected storm did not break.



## HONGKONG.

My readers will remember that some eight months ago I mentioned that the Leal Senado's Conductor of Municipal Works was repairing the street called Travessa de P. Narciso and making a pavement of sand and cement. A great sum of money was spent on the work, but it has all been thrown away and yesterday the street was again closed and a commencement made of the breaking up of the pavement. The street is now to be paved with stone in square blocks. This is a good testimonial to the experience of the youthful Conductor! And why is it this particular street that is always being repaired? Is it because it is just below the windows of Government House and that it is desired to throw dust in the eyes of His Excellency and give him the impression that the Leal Senado is an energetic body always at work effecting improvements?

By the last Timor mail news was received of the election of a Deputy to represent the two colonies in the Lisbon Chamber. The joint election is absurd, as only 101 voters exercised the franchise here against over two thousand in Timor. We might as well let Timor elect the Deputy alone and save ourselves all trouble in the matter.

## CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The revolt which, as reported sometime ago, broke out in a place named Po-ling, in Chiuhow district, is becoming very serious. The rebels number over ten thousand. Telegraphic information has been received in Canton saying that if reinforcements are not sent the place will be in great danger. The Government has sent a military officer named Kiang Chi-wa with a large number of soldiers by the gunboat *Fou-po*, and another batch is under orders to follow.

On the 10th instant the gunboat *Fou-po*, laden with rice, arrived at Canton from the province of Hunan. The rice has been delivered to the rice merchants to be sold at low prices. It is said that the gunboat *Nam Mo* will also shortly arrive with a cargo of rice. It is reported that as the charitable institutions have sent in several applications asking for the prohibition of the export of rice, which is now exceptionally dear, the Government has granted the prayer of the petitioners. A notice prohibiting the export will soon be issued, the draft having been already prepared.

The river in Shuihing, Namhoi, and Suntak districts is exceedingly high. The navigation is difficult, and the people of the said districts are keeping watch on the embankments day and night, fearing that the water may at any moment make a breach.

A fire broke out on the 6th instant in a mat shed where a theatrical performance was going on in honour of the god Tsz-sui, in the village named Siutong, in Pun-u district. The whole mat shed was destroyed, but luckily no lives were lost, with the exception of that of a small child, who was trampled to death during the panic. It is said the fire was caused by incendiaryism.

A few days ago a large band of criminals broke into a brothel in Sanchau, near Whampoa, and stole seven prostitutes. The robbers came from other places by two junks towed by a steam-launch and were all dressed in uniform like that of soldiers. When they got in they seized the seven prostitutes and dragged them away. The keepers of the brothel at once gave the alarm, and the police came on the scene and fired at the robbers, who returned the fire. Three robbers were fatally shot and two were captured alive. The other robbers carrying the seven captives got to the junks and sailed away. The case has been reported to the Pun-u Magistrate.

We (*Nagasaki Shipping List*) are sorry to learn that the Russian S.N. Co.'s steamer *Rladimir*, Captain Erickson, commander, has gone ashore on a rock near Possiet, about 70 miles from Vladivostock, and will in all probability become a total wreck. Her passengers and crew, however, have been saved, and were brought on here by the Volunteer Fleet's steamer *Saratov*, which arrived at Nagasaki on the 6th August.

We have had more than our share of rain lately. Already twenty-two inches have fallen during this month, and on four days the fall was over three inches. Of course the reservoirs are overflowing, and there need be no fear of a water famine during the forthcoming dry season. The past week has been very quiet, the most important event being the meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, which was held on Saturday.

There were 2,438 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 187 were Europeans.

Mr. J. T. Lauts, of Messrs. Lauts, Wegener and Co., has joined the Board of Directors of the National Bank of China, Limited.

The inquest on Frank Beckett, bluejacket whose body was found near the ferry wharf at Kowloon on the 6th inst., was held on 11th August, by Hon. H. E. Wodehouse. A verdict of "Found Drowned" was returned.

The China Sugar Refining Co., Limited, has declared an interim dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year ended 30th June last.

Captain W. E. Clarke has resumed command of the *Heungshan*, having completed his work in connection with the West River trade.

The maximum temperature last month was 90.3, on the 23rd, and the minimum 74.6, on the 1st, the mean for the month being 82.1. The rainfall amounted to 5.565 inches.

A man was sent to gaol on Monday for six weeks for assaulting another man with whom he quarrelled at West Point. The prisoner stuck a long pin into the complainant's back.

We hear that Mr. Thurburn, as well as Mr. Herbert Smith, has resigned his membership of the Light Dues Commission. Mr. Smith's letter of resignation will be found in another column.

A barber and a cook quarrelled in a shop at 350, Queen's Road Central on Sunday afternoon, the result being that the cook struck the barber with the glass chimney of a lamp. The glass broke, cut the poor barber's throat and he lost a lot of blood. He was taken to the Government Civil Hospital, where his injuries, which are of a very dangerous nature, were dressed.

The proposal to establish a new club, to occupy the premises lately vacated by the Hongkong Club, has now been carried into effect. At a meeting held on Monday afternoon the club was definitely formed and the name adopted was "The New Club." It was intimated that a portion of the premises, including the reading room and bar, would be open for the convenience of members in a few days and that the whole building was expected to be ready by the 1st October.

An old P. and O. friend, a retired Captain, in a private letter makes mention of Mr. H. M. Thomsett (late of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank) who will be well remembered here (says the *Singapore Free Press*) and in Hongkong. The news, we are sorry to hear, is not good. He says:—"Poor fellow, he is in a very sad state now: I fear he will never be well again. The Bank has behaved very generously towards him. It is very sad to see a young man thus crippled in the best of his days. The fall from his horse in Singapore has affected the spinal cord, and the poor fellow is never out of pain, which he bears with the greatest patience."

When the sailing ship *Abner Coburn* arrived in port on the 13th August, from New York her crew had a sad tale to tell. On the 19th June, when in Lat. 44 S., Long. 62 E., a heavy gale sprung up and during the tempest the wheel-house was washed overboard by a tremendous sea that shot over the stern of the vessel. The result was that the Captain, Mr. H. Nicholls, was thrown heavily on the deck and both his legs were broken. He suffered other injuries and notwithstanding the tender treatment he received at the hands of his wife and daughter, who were making the voyage with him, he died ten hours after the accident and was buried at sea. A sad gloom was cast over the ship, which was taken charge of by the first officer, who brought her to Hongkong. The first and second officers and two seamen also sustained injuries, but fortunately they were of a slight nature.

The wind blew very fiercely at two a.m. on 11th August. As a consequence the American sailing ship *Isaac Reed*, which was anchored in the kerosine anchorage at Causeway Bay, dragged her anchors and it was not until the boat was within a few yards of shallow water at Kowloon Fort Point that the anchors held again. A junk was also smashed in the harbour, but fortunately no lives were lost.

At the Magistracy on 12th Aug., Henry Williams, a private in the West Yorkshire Regiment, was charged with stealing a silver model of a chair from a jeweller's shop in Queen's Road Central. The prisoner went into the shop and at his request the chair was placed on the counter. He then snatched up the article and ran away, but was soon afterwards caught. He was sent to gaol for six weeks with hard labour.

The mail steamer *Laos*, the most recent addition to the fleet of the Messageries Maritimes, arrived here on 13th Aug., and in a very short time the following notice in big type was posted at the stern of the vessel:—"Prenez garde aux deux hélices." The sampan and cargo people looked studiously at the words and we have no doubt they took hold of the warning and avoided all danger. Such a notice has not been previously necessary on the vessels of the Messageries Maritimes, as the *Laos* is the first of their ships to be fitted with twin screws. She is about 466 feet long, 51 feet wide, and 31 feet deep, and is a very fine boat. On her trial trip she attained a speed of 19 knots an hour, and her nominal speed is 17 knots. She made very good time on her outward voyage as, although she was detained 36 hours at Colombo waiting for the Australian boat, 24 hours at Singapore, where she connected with the Batavian steamer, and 2½ days at Saigon, she completed the journey from Marseilles to Hongkong in 27 days. This speedy vessel will prove of great service in time of war as she can be converted into an armed cruiser, there being eight stands for quick-firing guns. The internal fittings and arrangements are exceedingly good, every care having been taken for the comfort of passengers. The first class compartments are handsome and commodious and the decorations particularly good, the dining saloon presenting a very picturesque appearance, while the library and smoke room are tastefully set off with very fine wood-work and paintings. The engines are of 7,200 horse power and the boilers are of the Belleville type. The gross tonnage is 6,000. It is intended to build three more vessels of the *Laos* class for the China line.

At the Police Court on 14th Aug., before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, the comrade of the Public Works Department was charged on remand with being in unlawful possession of eighty-nine ingots of copper, of the value of \$616. Mr. K. W. Mounsey appeared for the defendant and Mr. Hastings appeared for a Macao trader, who claimed the ownership of the copper. In 1894 the steamer *Bellona* was wrecked on the Paracels and at the end of last year the steamer *Himiji Maru* was wrecked near the same spot. There was a large cargo of copper on each vessel and part of it was insured in the China Traders' Insurance Company and also in the Canton Insurance Company. When the *Bellona* came to grief a schooner was sent down to guard her, but the schooner sustained some damage and she returned to Hongkong for repairs. Upon going to the *Bellona* again it was found that the steamer had been looted by fishermen and the assistance of the Viceroy of Canton was obtained, the result being that about \$5,000 worth of the stolen copper, all of which was marked, was recovered at Macao and brought to Hongkong. The copper found in the possession of the defendant was seized by Detective Inspector Kemp in the Government Store and the defendant was thereupon charged with having it in his unlawful possession. On Saturday the question was raised as to whether the Magistrate had jurisdiction in the case, the copper having been stolen in Chinese territory, and his Worship advised Mr. W. H. Ray, the Secretary of the China Traders' Insurance Co., who appeared to prosecute, to consult with the Captain Superintendent of Police and the Crown Solicitor as to what was the proper course to pursue. The case was thereupon adjourned until Thursday, the accused being allowed bail.



The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$31,197, being an increase of \$13,560 on the amount collected in the corresponding month last year. Over \$8,000 of the increase occurs under the head of probate.

A severe thunderstorm passed over the colony on the morning of the 12th August, continuing intermittently from about one o'clock to six. Captain Welman's house at Cameron Villas, Mount Kellett, was struck by lightning, but the damage was slight.

Her Majesty's confirmation of the Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Probates and Letters of Administration, the Vaccination Amendment Ordinance, and the Ordinance to amend the Law as to Flogging is notified in Saturday's *Gazette*.

A German prisoner named Irene died suddenly in Victoria Gaol on Tuesday and on 11th August, H. A. H. Wedehouse and a jury held the inquest. The medical evidence was that deceased died from heat apoplexy and a verdict in accordance with this testimony was returned.

A fruit hawker was charged at the Police Court on 13th August, as follows—"That he unlawfully did conspire with other persons not in custody feloniously to send to one Francis Henry May a certain letter directed to the said Francis Henry May by the description of 'Head of Police' demanding money from the said Francis Henry May with menaces and without reasonable and probable cause, then at the time well knowing the contents of the said letter, on the 11th inst." On the application of Inspector Kemp the prisoner was remanded for a week. The case came on again on the 16th. Mr. May said he had received four threatening letters altogether, but he had no evidence that the prisoner wrote any one of them. The letter concerning which the accused was arrested demanded \$10,000, the alternative being the killing of the complainant, but the handwriting of the prisoner did not resemble the writing contained in the letter and Mr. May therefore asked his Worship to discharge the prisoner. His Worship acceded to the request and the accused, who is rather a diminutive creature, was thereupon liberated. It is likely that the whole thing is a hoax.

The French sailing-ship *Du Guesclin* arrived in port on the 11th August. This is the ship with which the Dutch steamer *Speelman* collided on the 29th July, as already reported. The captain of the French boat states that he was blameless in the matter and that the look-out officer on the *Speelman* must have been asleep at the time. The accident occurred two days' sail from Anger. At twelve o'clock, midnight, the look-out man on the *Du Guesclin* reported a steamer to port and about an hour later the steamer was in dangerous proximity to the sailing ship and those on board the latter boat prepared for a collision. They also held lighted torches forward and shouted, but no notice was taken of these warnings and suddenly the steamer crashed into the forward port side of the vessel, bending the bowsprit, smashing in plates on the port and starboard sides, and doing other serious damage to the sailing vessel. The steamer was also badly damaged. Her funnel was smashed and it is believed that her stem was stove in, while loss of life was also reported. As soon as the collision occurred the captain of the French boat shouted "What name?" and he states that he was gruffly answered "No name." The steamer then went away. After discharging her cargo the *Du Guesclin* will go into dock for repairs.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Shortly before the departure of the *Coptic* from Yokohama for San Francisco, Mr. McIvor, U.S. Consul-General, pointed out to the captain that there were eighteen Japanese emigrants on board booked for the United States and under contracts. The admission of such contracted labourers was, he said, against the Immigration Act of the United States, and any steamer conveying such labourers was liable to a fine of \$500 for each person. In consequence of these representations, the departure of the steamer was postponed for a short time, the passages of the men were cancelled, and they were sent on shore.

A telegram received in Tokyo from Taipeh dated 31st ult. states that the number of Chinese arriving at Formosa from China was so large that the authorities had to take measures to check their arrival. Over 1,000 were arrested in Taipeh. General Tachimi, Director of the War Affairs Bureau, Formosa, declares that he deems it necessary to compel the Formosans to cut off their queues in order to distinguish them from Chinese.

Says the *Singapore Free Press*:—"The *Iphigenia* had rather rough weather on the way back from the Cocos Islands, causing the Hon. and learned Inspecting Officer and Judge to take things very much in camera. By the way, we hear that Cocos Islands are by way of becoming a regular *royaume des femmes*. There are accomplished young ladies there who have been sent home to England to be educated, and are possessed of many charms. But, alas, there are no available young men of a suitable class; no motive to take them there, and nothing to do if they did go there. Matrimony does not thus come within the field of practical politics, and the lovely maidens of the Cocos waste their sweetness on the desert island air. The annual visit of one of H.M.'s ships of war is the only chance of meeting the eligible male, but we all know what the average gallant lieutenant or midshipman is. "One foot on shore and one on sea," &c. And yet celibate man swarms by the thousand in places where there is hardly a woman to be seen. The lottery wheel of life does occasionally want a good bit of shaking about before the numbers are drawn.

The question of Captain v. Chinchew is, says the *Singapore Free Press*, a long standing problem which is continually cropping up in local Marine Courts of Enquiry whenever doubts are raised as to the proper stowage of cargo in Chinese owned boats. Theoretically, of course, the captain is responsible, a view which Chinese owners never fail to take in Court in the event of an accident to any of their vessels, but it is nevertheless generally recognised that captains in so far as they seek to exercise any effective control over their supercargoes must sooner or later reckon with the owners. Without particularising, several recent enquiries will at once be brought to mind, but another instance which serves to emphasise the evils of the system occurred only yesterday (3rd August). The steamship *Cheang Hock Kian*, Captain Maddox, in the ordinary course should have left for Penang yesterday, but before leaving, Mr. Foster, the mate, reported that the ship was not properly trimmed and that the Chinchew and stevedores refused to obey his orders. The captain himself considered the vessel unseaworthy, and he decided to try and convince the Chinchew and stevedores if possible. Leaving the roads about noon the vessel had only reached New Harbour when the captain decided that the attempt to proceed would be fraught with danger, and he turned back at once, anchoring in the Roads again about 1.15, and refusing to proceed until the cargo was properly stowed. It may be mentioned that the captain entered in his log that the vessel was unseaworthy, and that the log was signed by the mate, Mr. Foster, and by the chief engineer, Mr. Sang.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	1,827,448	1,778,140
Shanghai and Hankow ...	8,297,052	12,038,403
Foochow .....	7,358,990	8,326,725
Amoy .....	232,278	275,909
	17,715,768	22,419,182

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai .....	3,122,314	2,512,127
Amoy .....	5,998,281	5,444,738
Foochow .....	2,774,243	3,023,607
	11,894,838	11,010,472

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	16,893,814	18,603,397

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama .....	15,913,528	12,733,346
Kobe .....	9,632,782	6,707,867
	25,546,310	19,441,213

##### SILK.

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai .....	8,435	4,816
Canton .....	4,911	4,094
Yokohama .....	145	108
	12,861	90,187

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai .....	1,155	230
Canton .....	1,676	263
Yokohama .....	386	99
	3,217	692

##### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Arrivals have been small and prices are advancing. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$17.75 to \$48.00 Sales, 200 piculs.

##### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The market is again weak and prices are declining. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.20 to 7.23 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.70 to 6.72 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.53 to 4.55 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.42 to 4.45 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.12 to 7.15 "
do. " 2, White...	6.65 to 6.67 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.47 to 4.50 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.37 to 4.40 "
Soochow Sugar Candy .....	10.98 to 11.00 "
Shekloong .....	9.60 to 9.63 "

##### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Glengarry*, sailed on the 2nd August. For London:—674 boxes pearl shells, 50 boxes bristles, 50 bales waste silk and 5 packages merchandise.

The steamer *Carmarthenshire*, sailed on the 16th July. For New York:—1,418 packages merchandise, 28 cases chinaware, 11 cases hair, 10 cases joss sticks, 750 bales broken cassia, 33 cases blackwoodware, 334 boxes Saigon cassia, 7 bales duck feathers, 250 boxes camphor, 20 cases essential oil, 875 packages firecrackers, 5 cases bristles and 20 cases lith. paper.

Per German steamer *Niobe*, sailed on the 31st July. From Hongkong for Odessa:—35 bales canes. For Havre:—12 cases feathers, 14 cases cantharides, 3 boxes silk piece goods, 42 boxes tea, 517 rolls mats, 119 bales canes, 1 case bambooware, 16 cases chinaware, 5 cases blackwoodware and 1 package china ink. For Havre option Hamburg:—20 bales strawbags, 75 cases staranised, For Havre option Hamburg option London:—46 cases essential oil, 1,450 cases cassia lignea, 50 cases bristles, 10 cases camphor oil, 20 cases wood oil, and 20 cases vermilion. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—50 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—2,288 packages tea, 24 rolls matting, 151 bales rattanware, 80 boxes bristles, 238 bales canes, 200 bales galangal, 100 cases cassia buds, 410 cases cassia, 4 cases feathers, 3 bales tobacco, 3 cases china ink, 2 casks ginger, 50 bags beans, 20 cases sticklac and 21 packages sundries. For Hamburg, Rotterdam Amsterdam and London:—90 cases ginger. For Hamburg option London:—10 casks soy. For Hamburg option London:—20 boxes bristles. For Bremen:—47 packages tea dust. For Lisbon:—13 packages china and lacquered ware. For New York:—20 cases essential oil, 45 bales rattancores and 16 bales rattan.



The German steamer *Della*, sailed on the 6th August. From Hongkong for Smyrna:—15 boxes essential oil. For Havre:—100 boxes camphor, 60 bales rattans, 53 packages mats, 15 boxes feathers, 20 cases bristles and 17 boxes blackwood. For Havre option Hamburg:—12 boxes camphor, 38 bales canes, 450 rolls matting and 1 cask wood oil. For Havre option Hamburg option London:—10 cases bristles and 119 boxes camphor. For Hamburg:—1,000 boxes camphor, 500 cases cassia, 150 cases broken cassia, 621 bales feathers, 33 cases essential oil, 6 cases camphor wood trunks, 59 rolls matting, 1,000 boxes tea, 85 cases bristles, 10 casks wood oil, 59 packages canes, 30 packages rattan shavings and 9 packages sundries. For Hamburg option London:—10 boxes bristles and 174 casks wood oil. For Antwerp:—2,150 packages tea. For New York:—2 boxes bristles.

The German steamer *Kriemhild*, sailed on the 7th August. From Hongkong for Havre, Hamburg option London:—200 cases camphor. For London:—25 cases essential oil.

The German steamer *Senta*, sailed on the 10th August. From Hongkong for Havre:—100 bales canes, 2 boxes feathers and 10 boxes paper. For Havre option Hamburg:—19 cases essential oil. For Havre option Hamburg option London:—60 boxes essential oil and 40 boxes bristles. For Hamburg:—19 rolls matting, 2 cases chinaware, 10 cases blackwoodware, 187 bales canes, 70 cases canes, 70 cases palm-leaf fans, 143 packages crackers, 30 cases bristles, 67 bales feathers, 250 cases cassia and 5 packages sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Thames*, sailed on the 12th August. For London:—2 cases cigars from Manila, 5 cases silk piece goods, 3 cases feathers, 1 case cigars, 1 case curios, 59 bales canes and 341 boxes tea (7,161 lbs. congou). For France:—747 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk and 8 cases silk piece goods. For Milan:—60 bales raw silk, 150 bales waste silk and 1 box smoking pipes. For Basle:—100 bales waste silk.

#### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Bengal.—A slight decline has taken place in prices owing to the eagerness of holders to part with their stock. Current quotations are \$715 for New Patna and New Benares, and \$770 for Old Patna.

Malwa.—There has been an advance in rates owing to the drop in the exchange on India. The following are the latest figures:—

New (this yr.) \$800 with allowance of 0 to 1½ cts.  
 „ (last „) \$850 „ 0 to 2½ „  
 Old (2/5 „) \$870 „ 1 to 2½ „  
 „ (6/9 „) \$900 no allowance.

Persian.—There has been an improvement in this drug also owing to the fall in exchange. Paper-wrapped Opium having advanced to \$500 to \$660 according to quality. Oily continues to be quoted at \$500 to \$620.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna ..... 1,587 chests.  
 Old Patna ..... 21 „  
 New Benares ..... 510 „  
 Malwa ..... 250 „  
 Persian ..... 650 „

#### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 12	717½	770	717½	—	800/850	870/900
Aug. 13	712½	770	716½	—	800/850	870/900
Aug. 14	713½	770	713½	—	800/850	870/900
Aug. 15	713½	770	713½	—	800/850	870/900
Aug. 16	715	770	715	—	800/850	870/900
Aug. 17	715	770	715	—	800/850	870/900

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—There has been a large demand for shipment to the Straits, and prices are again advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary ..... \$2.88 to 2.90  
 „ Round, good quality ..... 2.73 to 2.80  
 „ Long ..... 2.87 to 2.93  
 Siam, Field, well cleaned, No. 1 ..... 2.75 to 2.79  
 „ Garden, No. 1 ..... 2.95 to 2.98  
 „ White ..... 3.98 to 3.99  
 „ Fine Cargo ..... 4.09 to 4.12

#### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—870 bales No. 10 at \$92 to \$101.50, 175 bales No. 12 at \$97 to \$100, 80 bales No. 16 at \$101 to \$107, 435 bales No. 20 at \$106.50 to \$111. *Japanese Yarn*.—110 bales No. 20 at \$111.50 to \$112. *Grey Shirtings*.—1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$3.92½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.97½, 750 pieces Soldier at \$3.90, 500 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Stags at \$4.10, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red Flower at \$3.00. *White Shirtings*.—250 pieces T. 190 at \$4.70, 250 pieces T. 200 at \$4.85. *T-Cloths*.—1,120 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.37½. *Long Ells*.—750 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.10 to \$7.15, 500 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.62½ to \$7.70. *Camlets*.—50 pieces 3 Elk, assorted, at \$12.75.

METALS.—*Tin*.—600 slabs Siam at \$36.40 to \$37.50, 350 slabs Foong Chai at \$37.50, 250 cases tin plates at \$6.10.

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. ....	1.80 to 1.90
7lbs. ....	2.10 to 2.31
8.4 lbs. ....	2.45 to 3.40
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.40 to 4.30
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....	2.35 to 2.65
58 to 60 „ ....	2.80 to 3.40
64 to 66 „ ....	3.40 to 4.00
Fine ..... 4.20 to 7.30	
Book-folds. ....	3.70 to 5.90
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.67 to 1.35
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. ....	1.55 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 „) „ ....	1.95 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 „) Mexs. ....	1.75 to 1.90
7lbs. (32 „) „ ....	2.20 to 3.30
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) ....	2.45 to 3.30
Drills, English—40 yds, 13½ to 14lbs. ....	3.85 to 5.25

#### FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs. .... 1.45 to 4.00

Brocades—Dyed ..... 4.00 to 4.75

Damasks ..... 0.12 to 0.16

Chintzes—Assorted ..... 0.08 to 0.11

Velvets—Black. 22 in. .... 0.21 to 0.32

Velvetcons—18 in. .... 0.18 to 0.21

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.50 to 0.90

#### WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.62½ to 1.30

German ..... 1.15 to 1.50

Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. 1.45 to 5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet ..... 7.15 to 9.60

Assorted ..... 7.25 to 9.10

Camlets—Assorted ..... 14.00 to 35.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted ..... 12.00 to 35.00

Orleans—Plain ..... 3.60 to 4.50

Blankets—8 to 12lbs. .... 6.00 to 12.00

#### METALS

Iron—Nail Rod ..... 4.00 to 4.10

Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.35 to —

Swedish Bar ..... 6.00 to —

Small Round Rod ..... 4.30 to —

Hoop ..... — to —

Old Wire Rope ..... — to —

Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8.30 to —

Australian ..... 8.35 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. 31.00 to —

Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 30.00 to —

Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 29.50 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs ..... — to —

Tiles ..... — to —

Tin ..... — to —

Composition Nails ..... 46.50 to —

Tin-Plates ..... 6.40 to —

Steel ..... 5.90 to —

#### SUNDRIES

Quicksilver ..... 124.00 to —

Window Glass ..... 3.90 to —

Kerosene Oil ..... 1.95 to —

#### JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 17th August.—The market continues dull and inactive and there is very little business of any consequence to report. The continued high rate of exchange between this and Shanghai, the low rate of sterling, and the over speculation and

consequent depression in mining stock appear to be the chief causes of the period of inactivity which has been the ruling feature in our market for some time past.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—A few small parcels have changed hands at 188 and 189 per cent. prem. for cash and at 190 for the end of the month cum dividend and at 178 per cent. prem. ex dividend, the market closing steady at 178 per cent. prem. ex dividend paid on the 16th instant. The meeting of shareholders was held on the 14th. The Chairman's speech, which was an exhaustive one, and can be found in the local papers of the 14th and 16th, has given much satisfaction to shareholders, especially in regard to the satisfactory position of the Bank's silver commitments. Nationals and Bank of China are still out of the market.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Have all ruled dull and flat. Unions have changed hands at \$232½ and are still wanted, China Traders at \$77½ and \$78, and Straits and Yangtzes at quotations, all in small unimportant lots, whilst Cantons remain on offer at \$180, and North Chinas have improved to Tls. 200, with sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.—A few small sales of Hongkongs at \$360 and of Chinas at \$107 and \$106 is all the business to be reported.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have continued to rule weak and more or less neglected, small sales only having taken place at \$33½ and \$33 for cash. The market closes quiet at latter rate. It is generally understood that the traffic on the West River is increasing and business improving. Indo-Chinas have found further buyers at \$50 and \$49½, but close weak at the latter rate. Douglases remain quiet with small sales at \$66½. China Manilas and China Mutuals continue more or less out of the market.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$145, \$144, and \$143 cum dividend of \$4 (an interim one) declared on the 17th inst.; a demand at \$144 in the early part of the week failed to bring out any shares, but at time of writing they could be obtained at \$143. Luzons have declined to \$45 with sales and sellers.

MINING.—Punjoms have again ruled very quiet and weak with only small unimportant sales at \$6, \$5½, and \$6, market closing with buyers at \$5½. Charbonnages are obtainable at \$90, but without business. New Balmorals have found small buyers at \$1.80 and \$1.70 for Preference and Ordinaries respectively. Olivers continue quiet with only small sales at quotations. Raubs have again suffered a serious decline and sales have been effected at \$21, \$20, \$19, \$18, and \$18½, closing somewhat steadier with buyers and no sellers at \$18½. There appears to be no valid reason for the fall as far as the mines themselves are concerned and over speculation seems to be the only way to account for it. The so called "poorer crushing" for July is not sufficient to account for the heavy fall. The actual result of the crushings is only given every two months, and the next one is not due until about 7th September. This so called "poorer crushing" is only the result of a rough clean up of Amalgam for July, which shows a deficit as compared with the previous rough clean up of 732 oz. of Amalgam or of about 230 oz. of pure gold, and, although a fair indication, is not by any means a conclusive proof that the current two months' crushing will not be as good as the last.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue quiet with small sales at 238 per cent. prem. The report just issued shows a net profit for the six months ended 30th June of \$325,345.88, after adding to which \$104,104.71 carried forward from last six months and deducting Directors and Auditors fees, the sum of \$421,950.59 remains for division, which the directors, subject to the approval of shareholders, propose to treat as follows:—A dividend of 8 per cent and a bonus of 4 per cent to shareholders, \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, \$5,427.08 written off Kowloon Docks (\$20,572 paid during six months on account of reconstruction of No. 1 slip passed direct to debit of revenue account), \$7,599.47 from Cosmopolitan Dock, \$5,633.12 from Steam Launches, \$100,000 to reserve which will then stand at \$700,000, and carrying forward \$95,790.92. Kowloon Wharves have ruled quiet with small sales and sellers at \$64. Wanchai



Godowns have changed hands at \$44 and 44½, closing steady at the latter rate.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have found small buyers at \$74½. Hotels have changed hands at \$50 and \$51, closing with sellers at the latter and buyers at the former rate. The report for last six months recommends a dividend of \$1.50 per share (3 per cent.), writing off \$5,000 from furniture, &c., and to carry forward \$13,473.20 to new account, a substantial improvement on last few years' working upon which shareholders are to be congratulated. Kowloon Lands remain unchanged and without business. West Points are quieter at \$22 with no sales and Humphreys Estates have changed hands at \$9½.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands have ruled slightly weaker with sellers and no buyers at \$44 cum new issue and at equivalent rates for new issue, &c. Electrics changed hands in the early part of the week at \$9.25 (cum call of \$2) and later at \$9.30 and \$9.40, closing steady at \$9.50. Watsons have been negotiated at \$12.50, Dairy Farms at \$3½, and Fenwicks at \$28.75. All Cotton Mills have ruled quiet at quotations with little or no business. Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., General Managers, have issued a prospectus for the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Co., Limited, with a capital of \$1,200,000 in shares of \$100 each. Applications for 3,000 shares, which number is all that are to be put on the market at present (6,000 having been already allotted by the promoters) are invited, the list closing at 3 p.m. to-morrow, the 18th inst.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
<b>Banks—</b>		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$347.50, ex div. se.
China & Japan, pref.	\$5	178 % prem=
Do. ordinary	\$1 10s	nominal
Do. deferred	\$1	\$5, sellers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$22.50, sellers
Founders Shares	\$1	\$20
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$9, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$143, sal. & sellers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$4, sales
Ewo Cotton	Tls. 100	Tls. 117, sal. & sel.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$28 75, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$44 cum N.I., \$29½
		ex. N.I., \$14½ N.I.
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33, buyers [s. & s.]
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$9.50
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$113, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$50, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$113, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$64, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$171, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$38 p. ct. prem.=
		\$42½, sellers
<b>Insurances—</b>		
Canton	\$50	\$130, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$106, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$78, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$360, sales & buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 200, sales & b.
Strait	\$20	\$17½, sal. & buyers
Union	\$25	\$232½, sal. & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$157½, sellers
<b>Land and Building—</b>		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$74½, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$9, sales & sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$22, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$45, sales & sellers
<b>Mining—</b>		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$90, sellers
Great E. & C. donian	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$2½, sales & sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$2.10, buyers
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.70, sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.75, sales
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$20, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$5.10, sales & sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$5.75, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2
Rauhs	13s. 10d.	\$18½, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$18½, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.—</b>		
China and Manila	\$50	\$76, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2 10s.
Do. Preference	\$10	\$7, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$6½, sales
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$33, sales
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$49½, sal. s & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$44½, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12 50, sal. & buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

### CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

TUESDAY, 17th August.  
EXCHANGE.

<b>ON LONDON.—</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
<b>ON PARIS.—</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.31
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.35½
<b>ON GERMANY.—</b>	
On demand	1.87
<b>ON NEW YORK.—</b>	
Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	45½
<b>ON BOMBAY.—</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	142
Bank, on demand	142½
<b>ON CALCUTTA.—</b>	
Telegraphic Transfer	142
Bank, on demand	142½
<b>ON SHANGHAI.—</b>	
Bank, at sight	75½
Private, 30 days' sight	76½
<b>ON YOKOHAMA.—</b>	
On demand	8 % pm.
<b>ON MANILA.—</b>	
On demand	5 % pm.
<b>ON SINGAPORE.—</b>	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.72
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	55.50

### VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Benlarig (str.), Java (str.),  
Diomed (str.), Euplectela (str.), Glenavon (str.),  
Prometheus (str.), Ceylon (str.), Shanghai (str.),  
Kaisar-i-Hind (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Heathbank, Doric (str.).  
City of Peking (str.).  
For MARSEILLES.—Nerile (str.).  
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).  
For HAMBURG.—Della (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—Landseer, Frey (str.), Morven  
(str.), Benalder (str.), Lucy A. Nickles.  
For AUSTRALIA.—Airhe (str.), Omi Maru (str.).

### SHIPPING.

#### ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

#### HONGKONG.

August—  
11, Nanyong, British str., from Singapore.  
11, Saint Mary, British str., from London.  
12, Bombay, British str., from Bombay.  
12, Sullberg, German str., from Chefoo.  
12, Kalgan, British str., from Canton.  
12, Euplectela, British str., from Batoum.  
12, Falkenburg, German str., from S'pore.  
12, Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.  
12, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.  
12, Abner Coburn, Amr. ship, from N. York.  
13, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.  
13, P. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.  
13, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
13, Tekoa, British str., from Singapore.  
13, Frejr, Danish str., from Hoihow.  
13, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.  
13, Hansa, German str., from Iloilo.  
13, Donar, German str., from Mauritius.  
14, Loksang, British str., from Canton.  
14, Oslo, Norwegian str., from Canton.  
14, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.  
14, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.  
14, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.  
15, China, German str., from Saigon.  
15, Choysang, British str., from Canton.  
15, Framnes, Norw. str., from Canton.  
15, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.  
15, Ghazee, British str., from Yokohama.  
15, Hohenzollern, German str., from Y'hama.  
15, Hunan, British str., from Wuhu.  
15, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.  
15, Tantalus, British str., from Foochow.  
15, Victoria, Swedish str., from Iloilo.  
16, Liongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.  
16, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.  
16, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.  
16, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
16, Else, German str., from Hoihow.  
16, Talle, German str., from Iloilo.  
16, Haitan, French str., from Haiphong.  
16, Glenfarg, British str., from London.  
16, Bayern, German str., from Shanghai.  
16, Nanchang, British str., from Chefoo.

17, Store Nordiske, Dan. str., from Shanghai.  
17, Candia, British str., from London.  
17, Hong Leong, British str., from Java.  
17, Pingsney, British str., from Foochow.  
17, Hupeh, British str., from Shanghai.  
17, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.  
17, Kashing, British str., from Shanghai.  
17, Benlarig, British str., from Foochow.  
17, Omi Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.  
17, Shantung, British str., from Java.  
17, Sishan, British str., from Bangkok.  
17, Taicheong, German str., from Swatow.  
17, Chingping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.

#### August— DEPARTURES.

12, Choysang, British str., for Canton.  
12, Mathilde, German str., for Haiphong.  
12, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.  
12, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
12, Kagoshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.  
12, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.  
12, Sullberg, German str., for Canton.  
12, Thames, British str., for Europe.  
12, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.  
13, Hinsang, British str., for Sourabaya.  
13, Cosmopolit, German str., for Hoihow.  
13, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
13, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.  
13, Nanyong, British str., for Swatow.  
13, Tetartos, German str., for Y'hama.  
13, Verona, British str., for Yokohama.  
14, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.  
14, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.  
14, Progress, German str., for Touron.  
14, Medusa, Austrian str., for Shanghai.  
14, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.  
14, Gaelic, British str., for San Francisco.  
14, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
14, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.  
14, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
14, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
14, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.  
14, Mount Lebanon, British str., for Saigon.  
14, Patroclus, British str., for Amoy.  
14, Sadokuni Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
15, Chofwa, British str., for Bangkok.  
15, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
15, Tekoa, British str., for Shanghai.  
16, Hunan, British str., for Canton.  
16, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.  
16, Loksang, British str., for Swatow.  
17, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.  
17, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.  
17, Willkommen, Ger. ship, for Portland (Or.)  
17, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.  
17, Ghazee, British str., for New York.  
17, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.  
17, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.  
17, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.  
17, Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.  
17, Tantalus, British str., for London.

#### PASSENGER LIST.

##### ARRIVED.

Per Hailoong, from Tamsui, &c.—Mr. Geniter.  
Per Choysang, from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Conway.  
Per Sullberg, from Chefoo—Mr. Hamann.  
Per Saint Mary, from London, &c.—Messrs. Wm. Perrott and J. Course, M.S.C.  
Per P. C. Klao, from Bangkok.—Messrs. Anderson and Kinch.  
Per Zafiro, from Manila.—Messrs. A. Epler, P. V. Jorge, and R. Gonzaga.  
Per City of Peking, from San Francisco, &c.—Dr. H. M. Heller, Messrs. A. C. Harrison, Jr., L. L. Etzel, J. H. Willson, W. B. Plant, Judge Geo. H. Saunders, Juan Manzano, A. E. Cramer, Edwin Ralphs, and Mr. Telford.  
Per Laos, for Hongkong from Colombo—Mr. Baldomero, Lieut.-Col. J. A. F. Nutt. From Singapore—Mrs. Winterburn and child, Mr. R. J. L. Wright. From Saigon—Mr. Yeng Seng. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Messrs. Graillet, M. Speilmann, and Ponzi. From Colombo—Mr. Landréat. From Saigon—Mr. Raymond. For Kobe from Singapore—Messrs. M. L. Martin and Kawai. From Saigon—Mr. Caneag. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Messrs. Alex. Maximow and Renault. From Colombo—Mr. J. H. de Reuss. From Saigon—Mr. M. Henry.  
Per Haitan, from Coast Ports.—Messrs. E. P. W. Skrimshire, B. L. Paton, Cheong Po, Siva Chee Sune, Misses Herrmann and Stewart and 165 Chinese.  
Per Hunan, from Wuhu, &c.—Master John Peeble.



Per *Hohenzollern*, from Japan—Baron von Korff, Messrs. Max Goety, Geo. Jones, F. Vogel, Geo. F. Heweth, Mrs. Silberman and child, and Mrs. Kohn.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Empress of China*, for Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Felipe Yamora and 6 children, Messrs. J. N. Bliss, W. Lange, Poon Wy Ting, Lieut. M. D. Wood. For Nagasaki—Capt. Tillett, Mrs. Ohta Tami, Mrs. Satora Lun, Mrs. Makiyama and child, Mrs. Tanaka. For Yokohama—Lieut. Bannermann, Dr. and Mrs. Bateson Wright, Capt. G. D. Price, Messrs. P. A. Barlow, A. W. Brown, H. Jessen. For Vancouver (B.C.)—Mrs. D. E. Brown, Mrs. Post. For Montreal from Kobe—Miss E. M. Gault, Mr. A. F. Gault. For Glasgow—Mr. W. S. Fyfe. For London—Mr. C. H. Harris. For Paris—Mr. E. Chosseler.

Per *Thames*, from Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. Dennis, Mrs. G. Macdonald and child, Messrs. T. C. Wylie and Mudge. For Bombay—Messrs. F. Dewjee, S. Abdoolally, A. Mohamedally, and P. C. Pallanjee. For London—Mr. McMullen. From Shanghai for Singapore—Mr. A. M. Swan. For Port Said—Mr. A. H. Heath.

Per *Verona*, for Yokohama from London—Mr. Lazarus, Gen. Cunliffe.

Per *Laos*, from Hongkong for Shanghai—Rev. Gueneau, Mrs. R. d'Andrade, and 2 children, Messrs. J. M. Carvalho, L. David, R. Horikawa, and Miss Yok Cheng. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Danenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Favre, Messrs. Joseph Martinez, and M. Sierra.

Per *Gaelic*, for Shanghai—Mr. R. W. Borthwick. For Nagasaki—Mr. Jno. Blake. For Kobe—Mr. J. A. F. Nutt. For Yokohama—Lieut. O. H. Bonham Carter, Mr. W. B. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin, Miss Gray. For San Francisco—Judge G. H. Sanders, Mr. H. B. Plant, Mr. J. W. Wilson, Mrs. Yee Fung Shan, and Rev. J. Rossi.

Per *Loksang*, for Swatow—Mr. F. Focken. For Tientsin—Mr. Heinrich Mootz.

## SHIPPING IN PORT.

## HONGKONG.

## STEAMERS.

Activ, Danish steamer, 426, Storm, Aug. 8, Jardine, Matheson & Co  
Bayern, German str., 5,034, Prehn, Aug. 16, Melchers & Co  
Benlarig, British str., 1,453, Wallace, Aug. 17, Gibb, Livingston & Co  
Bombay, British str., 2,047, Weston, Aug. 12, P. & O. S. N. Co  
Candia, British str., 4,195, Wright, Aug. 17, P. & O. S. N. Co  
China, German steamer, 1,114, Voss, Aug. 15, Siemssen & Co  
Chingping, Chinese str., 1,050, Blake, Aug. 17, Chinese Eng. & Mining Co  
Chiyuen, Chinese str., 1,274, Null, Aug. 16, C. M. S. N. Co  
City of Peking, Amr. str., 5,079, Smith, Aug. 13, P. M. S. S. Co  
City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., 3,159, Ward, July 27, P. M. S. S. Co  
Deucalion, British str., 1,374, Branch, Aug. 8, Butterfield & Swire  
Donar, German str., 1,015, Grundmann, Aug. 13, Lauts, Wegener & Co  
Else, German steamer, 902, Petersen, Aug. 16, Jebson & Co  
Euplectela, British str., 2,507, Stott, Aug. 12, Arnhold, Karberg & Co  
Falkenburg, German str., 975, Freedon, Aug. 12, Melchers & Co  
Fatshan, British str., 1,425, J. Dick, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton  
Formosa, British steamer, 674, Robson, Aug. 15, Douglas Lapraik & Co  
Framnes, Norw. str., 957, Gabrullir, Aug. 9, Shewan, Tomes & Co  
Glenfarg, British str., 2,350, Selby, Aug. 16, Jardine, Matheson & Co  
Hailan, Danish steamer, 350, Gerard, Aug. 16, A. R. Marty  
Hankow, British str., 2,235, C. V. Lloyd, Butterfield & Swire, for Canton  
Hanoi, French steamer, 739, Besancen, Aug. 8, A. R. Marty  
Hansa, German steamer, 1,202, Marty, Aug. 13, Butterfield & Swire

Heungshan, British str., 1,054, W. E. Clarke, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Macao  
Hohenzollern, Ger. str., 2,039, Bleeker, Aug. 15, Melchers & Co

Honam, British str., 1,344, S. W. Goggin, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton

Hong Leong, Brit. str., 1,171, Frepp, Aug. 17, Chinese

Hunan, British str., 1,158, Frazier, Aug. 15, Butterfield & Swire

Hupoh, British steamer, 1,894, Quail, Aug. 17, Butterfield & Swire

Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., 2,143, Narasaki, Aug. 17, M. B. Kaisha

Kashing, British str., 1,156, Hopkins, Aug. 17, Butterfield & Swire

Keongwai, British str., 1,114, Unsworth, Aug. 14, Butterfield & Swire

Kwonghoi, British steamer, 419, Chinese, for Canton

Loongmoon, Ger. str., 1,245, Schulz, Aug. 16, Siemssen & Co

Methven Castle, Brit. str., 1,719, Hill, June 25, Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Nanchang, Brit. str., 1,060, Finlayson, Aug. 16, Butterfield & Swire

Omi Maru, Jap. str., 1,533, Young, Aug. 17, Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Oslo, Norwegian str., 778, Pedersen, Aug. 10, Wieler & Co

P. C. Klao, British str., 1,011, Fowler, Aug. 13, Yuen Fat Hong

Peiyang, German str., 953, R. Kohler, Aug. 14, Siemssen & Co

Pingsuey, British str., 1,982, Davies, Aug. 17, Holliday, Wise & Co

Powan, British str., 1,842, A. N. Patrick, H. C., & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton

Skuld, Norwegian str., 917, Rafen, Aug. 6, Carlowitz & Co

Saint Mary, British str., 1,939, Pirie, Aug. 12, Shewan, Tomes & Co

Shantung, British str., 1,535, Frampton, Aug. 17, Butterfield & Swire

Sishan, British steamer, 874, Jones, Aug. 15, Bradley & Co

Store Nordiske, Dan. str., 596, Suenson, Aug. 17, G. N. Telegraph Co

Sullberg, German str., 782, Jessen, Aug. 12, Siemssen & Co

Taicheong, German str., 820, Ahrent, Aug. 17, Meyer & Co

Tailee, German str., 828, Calender, Aug. 16, Meyer & Co

Tai On, British str., 769, Galleouski, Chinese, for Canton

Taiyick, German str., 1,060, Schuldt, Aug. 9, Meyer & Co

Victoria, Swedish str., 989, Hellberg, Aug. 15, A. R. Marty

Whampoa, British str., 1,219, Moore, Aug. 9, Butterfield & Swire

Zafiro, British steamer, 675, Cobban, Aug. 13, Shewan, Tomes & Co

## SAILING VESSELS.

Abner Coburn, Amr. ship, 1,879, Nichols, Aug. 12, Standard Oil Co

Ancyra, British bark, 2,198, Morris, July 29, Order

Duguesclin, French bark, 1,334, Dejoie, Aug. 11, Order

Gov. Robie, Amr. ship, 1,627, Nichols, July 5, Arnhold, Karberg & Co

Heathbank, British bark, 1,548, McKechnie, July 6, Standard Oil Co

Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, 1,489, Waldo, Aug. 4, Standard Oil Co

Landseer, Amr. ship, 1,348, Stahl, April 12, Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Lucy A. Nickels, Amr. ship, 1,380, Nickels, May 24, Standard Oil Co

Sierra Nevada, British ship, 1,400, Scott, July 30, P. & O. S. N. Co

Spinaway, British sch., 327, Johnson, July 21, Order

West York, British bark, 688, Davis, Oct. 18, Order

## SHANGHAI.

In Port on 7th August, 1897.

Airlie, British steamer, 1,493, Ellis, Aug. 4, Gibb, Livingston & Co

Anna Bertha, Ger. bark, 560, Nielsen, July 13, H. Sylva & Co

Anping, Chinese str., 1,156, Stewart, Aug. 6, C. M. S. N. Co

Bayern, German str., 3,128, Prehn, July 31, Melchers & Co

Benlarig, British str., 1,453, Wallace, Aug. 6, Gibb, Livingston & Co

Charon Wattana, Siam bk., 656, Koch, May 18, M. A. Petersen

Contest, British bark, 486, Soderman, May 10, Nils Moller and Sons

Edenballymore, British ship, 1,642, May, Aug. 4, Standard Oil Co

Elisabeth, German bark, 823, Floger, July 29, H. Sylva & Co

Energia, British steamer, 2,061, —, Aug. 4, Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Ernest Simons, French str., 2,162, Maubenge, July 29, Messageries Maritimes

Hardwick Hill, Brit. str., 2,076, Barclay, Aug. 1, Standard Oil Co

Hawaiian Isles, Hawaiian ship, 2,041, Kustle, July 28, Order

Helen Brewer, Haw. ship, 1,518, Maham, July 14, Standard Oil Co

Hermann, German str., 808, Gornitzka, July 21, Hopkins, Dunn & Co

Josephus, Amr. ship, 1,347, Gilky, July 12, Standard Oil Co

Kaisar-i-Hind, Brit. str., 2,386, Barcham, July 28, P. & O. S. N. Co

Kitty, British barque, 662, Maher, July —, Hopkins, Dunn & Co

Kweilin, British str., 1,088, Harris, July 21, Butterfield & Swire

Loongmoon, German str., 1,245, Schulz, July 31, Siemssen & Co

Lucia, British bark, 640, Anderson, Aug. 4, Nils Moller and Sons

Mary, Norwegian bark, 424, Andersen, May 26, Olsen & Co

Nanaimo, British barque, 332, Otter, July 27, Order

Nestor, British str., 2,416, Asquith, Aug. 5, Butterfield & Swire

Osaka, British barque, 516, Hassen, Aug. 2, Nils Moller and Sons

Paul Revere, Amr. ship, 1,641, Mullin, July 14, Standard Oil Co

Rewa, British barque, 454, Barrier, June 2, Hopkins, Dunn & Co

Sebastian Bach, British bark, 823, Hanson, July 12, H. Sylva & Co

Siam, Austrian str., 1,991, Raieich, Aug. 5, E. D. Sassoon & Co

Strathallan, Brit. str., 1,488, Macoubrey, Aug. 2, Fearon, Daniel & Co

Singan, British str., 1,058, Jamieson, July 24, Butterfield & Swire

Stanfield, British bark, 560, Wilson, July 12, Morris & Co

Szechuen, British str., 1,158, Derby, Aug. 6, Butterfield & Swire

Taiwan, British str., 1,109, Pearce, July 17, Butterfield & Swire

Tantalus, British str., 2,282, Hannah, Aug. 3, Butterfield & Swire

Toonan, Chinese steamer, 941, Mertens, July 31, C. M. S. N. Co

Troop, British ship, 1,528, Fritz, April 1, Standard Oil Co

Valkyrien, British bark, 498, Anderson, Dec. 15, Nils Moller and Sons

W. H. Conner, Amr. ship, 1,432, Pendleton, Aug. 4, Standard Oil Co

## YOKOHAMA.

In Port on 6th August, 1897.

Arracan, British ship, 2,222, Donald, July 19, Standard Oil Co

Esmeralda, British sch., 142, Harrison, Aug. 2, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Glenrich, British ship, 2,216, Davies, July 21, American Trading Co

Gleulochy, British str., 2,995, McGregor, Aug. 3, Jardine, Matheson & Co

Ingraban, German str., 864, Piper, Aug. 1, Grauert & Co

Irene, German steamer, 2,145, Schuder, July 27, Simon, Evers & Co

Morven, British str., 2,350, Ellies, Aug. 3, Frazar & Co

Prosper, Amr. sch., 513, Johannesen, July 28, R. Issacs & Co

Salazie, French steamer, 2,540, Paul, July 25, M. M.

Smit, Dutch steamer, 822, Kaast, Aug. 3, Simon, Evers & Co

St. John, American ship, 1,768, Fales, July 7, Standard Oil Co

Printed and Published by D. WARREN SMITH, at 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.